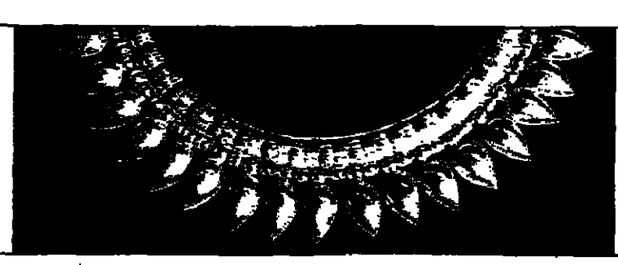
PROPERTY
Our great houses under siege



REVIEW
The golden treasures of Nimrud

BOOKS
Elizabeth Siddal: the mysterious Pre-Raphaelite

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE DIVISION

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SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25 1989

Jakes quits as Dubcek voice again rings out in Wenceslas Square

Entire Czech Government resigns

From Richard Bassett, Prague

Mr Milos Jakes, the ruling Czechoslovakian Communist Party chief, and the entire Secretariat unexpectedly submitted their resignations to an extraordinary meeting of the Central Committee in Prague last evening. It was expected that the resignations, submitted after Mr Jakes said reforms had not been made fast enough, would be accepted almost immediately.

In a terse dispatch, the state-run news agency said: "The General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, Milos Jakes, and all other members of the Politburo and secretariat submitted their resignations so that a new leadership of the party could be elected. Jakes said he hoped the newly elected organs of the party will contribute to a more resolute implementation of the process of restructuring and democratization."

Earlier, the long-awaited voice of Mr Alexander Dubcek, silent for 21 years, rang out across Wenceslas Square as more than half a million Czechs stood silent to hear him.

With his arms gently outstretched, and speaking in his unmistakable thick Slovak accent, Mr Dubcek said: "Socialism with a human face" – his immortal phrase of 1968 – "must function again for a new generation. We have lived in the darkness long enough."

After the Warsaw Pact invasion of his country, he together with hundreds of thousands of party members were purged, humiliated and forced to eke out isolated existences cut off from the rest of the world.

In Mr Dubcek's case he was confined to his home town, Bratislava, where he worked as a junior forestry-keeper. Until 18 months ago, he had been banned from making any political statements or speaking to foreigners. Gradually, since then, he has stepped out of these shadows, addressing a crowd in Bratislava on Thursday.

While he spoke yesterday in Prague, those responsible for inviting the Soviet army in 1968, hectically discussed their future course of action in a special plenum of the ruling Communist Party Central Committee.

Ominously in an unprecedented departure from usual procedure, the meeting opened not in Hradcany Castle, in the heart of the city, but in a distant suburb close to the headquarters of the army and secret police.

The party has lost the initiative since it ordered police to attack and break up a student demonstration a week ago.

Although some members of the government, including Mr Ladislav Adamec, the Prime Minister, hoped to salvage communism, the situation is hardly in their control.

According to well informed party sources a six-hour meeting of the Prague party heard demands for the resignations of Mr Gustav Husak, the Czechoslovak president, Mr Jan Fojtak, the despised chief of idealogy, and Mr Alois Enre, a sick, elderly politician chiefly remembered for inviting the Soviet Army to invade and crush the Prague Spring in 1968.

The party meetings resolution, however, only called for "fundamental changes in the party leadership" and avoided mentioning any politicians by name. More importantly it demanded a party conference for January to implement radical changes.

Mr Dubcek told the crowd yesterday that he supported the initiative of the new opposition group Civil Forum.

After Mr Dubcek spoke, one of the leading lights of the new group, Mr Vaclav Havel, the well known dissident and playwright, said that Civil Forum, although only five days old, represented all sections of the nation and had received that day a message from the army saying that it distanced itself from the police brutality of last week.

That brutality, Mr Havel said to ecstatic cheers, had been the work of "the terrorist department of the Ministry of the Interior".

As well as messages of support from the army, the student groups who have initiated the present move for reform have received messages of support from the Peoples Militia in Prague

General Milan Vaclavik, the Czech Defence Minister, who threatened on Thursday night that the army was ready to defend the communist regime yesterday was rushed to the Prague military hospital after taking an overdose of medicine, Agence France Presse reported.

Mr Alexander Dubcek, Czechoslovak leader during the ill-fated Prague Spring, waving to cheering crowds waiting for him in Wenceslas Square yesterday.

Thatcher warns against euphoria

'Cold war to year 2000'

From Philip Webster, Washington

The Prime Minister said yesterday that the United States must keep a "substantial presence" in Europe and said that the cold war would not be over until the end of the century.

Speaking before her Camp David summit with President Bush, Mrs Thatcher used a series of nationwide television interviews to warn the American people against "excessive euphoria" about the recent events in Eastern Europe.

Aware of the growing public pressure facing the American Administration to cut American forces in Europe, Mrs Thatcher reiterated the need for Nato to maintain its strength and to modernise its weapons, including short range nuclear arms, and said several times that had the Alliance been in place in the 1930s the last war would never have happened.

Mrs Thatcher's words of caution, which she repeated during her first summit on American soil with Mr Bush, comes following a repeated confirmation this week that the United States is planning heavy cuts in military spending over the next six years.

Mrs Thatcher flew by helicopter to Camp David to be greeted by Mr Bush and his wife Barbara. Mr Brent Scowcroft, the National Security Adviser, and Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, the deputy Secretary of State. Mr Bush drover her by golf buggy to Laurel Lodge and declared as they went in "let's get down to business".

Mrs Thatcher, appearing on four television networks at breakfast time, said repeatedly that the cold war was not over but that it was thawing. She warned: "When the ice breaks it breaks up and it can be very dangerous".

She said that of course everyone was excited by the events in East Germany and elsewhere. But she went on: "Please don't let euphoria go on. Euphoria is a bad master. You must be very realistic and practical about how to translate this tremendous emotion into practical democracy backed by economic reforms. that is the difficult part. The easy thing is the demonstrations." Introducing democracy was not just an intention. It was going through the hard grind of keeping it in place and making sure that small groups could not overthrow it. "It will take at least the rest of the next decade and therefore this century. But it is well worth doing. It is taking up the Iron Curtain over Europe."

She said that German reunification was not on the agenda at the moment. She was not sceptical about what had been taking place but realistic. She denied that Mr Bush had been detached about events. Like her he had welcomed what happened as a great day for freedom.

'I have never been a lame duck'

By Philip Webster in Washington and Sheila Gunn

The Prime Minister moved yesterday to re-assert her domestic and international authority with a defiant declaration in Washington that she was not a "lame duck" leader and never would be.

She seized the world stage offered by her first American summit with President Bush to launch her campaign to see off the first threat to her leadership of the Conservative party since 1975.

She told an American nationwide television audience: "I have never been a lame duck in my life. I am not going to start being one now."

Mrs Thatcher's dramatic intervention came as some Conservative MPs voiced misgivings about her decision to announce in her interview in *The Times* yesterday that she was ready to fight two more elections.

They believe Mrs Thatcher could face a tougher leadership challenge in the wake of her announcement.

However, she stressed: "I will go on as long as I am wanted or re-elected."

Government sources insist that the Prime Minister had not "changed her mind" over how long she would stay in office. Any difference detected between her interview in *The Times* and an earlier interview in the *Sunday Correspondent* was a matter of interpretation, they argue.

However, even her strongest supporters feared some MPs could be "put off" by her determination to stay in office for up to eight more years.

A former Minister argued: "She is her own worst enemy. She chooses the right policies but the wrong people - and the wrong phrases."

Sir Anthony Meyer, still the sole committed contender in the leadership contest, asserted that her comments

Continued on page 16, col 7

In today's 60-page Times

SECTION 1

Home news 2-5
Overseas news 6-8
Births, marriages, deaths 13
Church services 13
Court & Social 12
Crossword 16
Diary 10
Leading articles 11
Letters 11
Obituaries 12
On this day 13
Parliament 4
Religion 12
Saleroom 5
Television & radio 14,15
Weather 16

SECTION 2

Business news 17-20
Family Money 23-29
Stock markets 21,22

SECTION 3

Arts 41
Books 38,39
Bridge and chess 46
Campus 34
Collecting 43
Concise crossword 46
Eating Out 34
Entertainments 40
Food and drink 35,37
Ned Sherrin 32
Records 42
Shopping 44,45
Week Ahead 46

SECTION 4

Sport 47-51,54
Gardening 55
Leisure 55
Racing 52,53
Travel 56-59

Life term for father

The father of Sukina Hammond, aged five, who was beaten to death with the flex of a kettle because she refused to spell her name, was jailed for life yesterday after being found guilty of murdering her.

A full social services investigation was launched into the case last night by the social services department at Avon council.

David Hammond, an unemployed martial arts fanatic, killed his daughter at the family home in Bristol last year in a vengeful and sustained beating, a jury at Bristol was told.

Life sentence, page 3

Krenz prepared to end party's grip on power

By Michael Knipe, Diplomatic Correspondent

Herr Egon Krenz, the East German communist party leader, said yesterday he agreed the party's guaranteed leading role should end.

In an interview with the party daily, *Neues Deutschland*, he said he favoured abolishing Article 1 of the constitution, which provides for communist control. The party's success, he said, must not be derived from laws or declarations but from its work and attitude. He denied that the party was corrupt but conceded it had been responsible for "many basic mistakes – ultimately the crisis of our society".

According to an official opinion poll, fewer than one in 10 East Germans support Herr Krenz as political leader. Herr Hans Modrow, the reformist Prime Minister, was the most popular politician with 41.9 per cent.

Monopoly pledge 6
Privilege unmasked 6

Yearly Aids test for half million

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Up to half a million people a year are to be tested anonymously for traces of the Aids virus, Mrs Virginia Bottomley, the Minister for Health, said yesterday.

The announcement came as Dr Jonathan Mann, of the World Health Organization, said that any indication that the Government was giving a lower priority to campaigns concerning Aids would have international repercussions.

The test scheme, which will be launched in January, will involve men, women and newborn babies, none of whom can be told the results of the tests.

Sir Donald Acheson, the Government's chief medical officer, said the tests would be carried out for many years as part of what he described as a "100-year war against Aids". The tests will involve pregnant women at antenatal clinics, infants in maternity units, and men and women at sexually transmitted diseases clinics throughout the country.

The scheme will also be introduced in some general hospitals. In all cases, a sample of blood taken for other health checks will also be analysed for HIV antibodies. The identity of the individual will not be known to laboratory staff conducting the tests, making it impossible for it to be traced.

The aim is to provide insights into the prevalence of the virus in the general population. Each sample will have the age and sex of the individual and the location where it was taken.

Expert's warning 4

Britain's first astronaut named today

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

After months of exhausting tests, Britain's first astronaut will be named today, chosen from the four remaining contestants in a competition that began with 13,000 applicants last June.

The winner will learn on a live television programme to be broadcast at 5:15pm this afternoon, from the Science Museum, in South Kensington, London, of his or her fate: which is to be on a flight in April 1991 on project Juno, an Anglo-Soviet eight-day mission to the Soviet Mir space station.

The four candidates, one woman and three men, returned last night from Russia, where they have been through the last tests on which a British-Soviet panel of experts led by Air Vice-Marshal Peter Howard, the RAF's senior specialist in aviation medicine, will make the final choice.

The aspiring astronauts had a foretaste of the 18-month training programme that lies ahead at the cosmonaut training school at Star City, near Moscow.

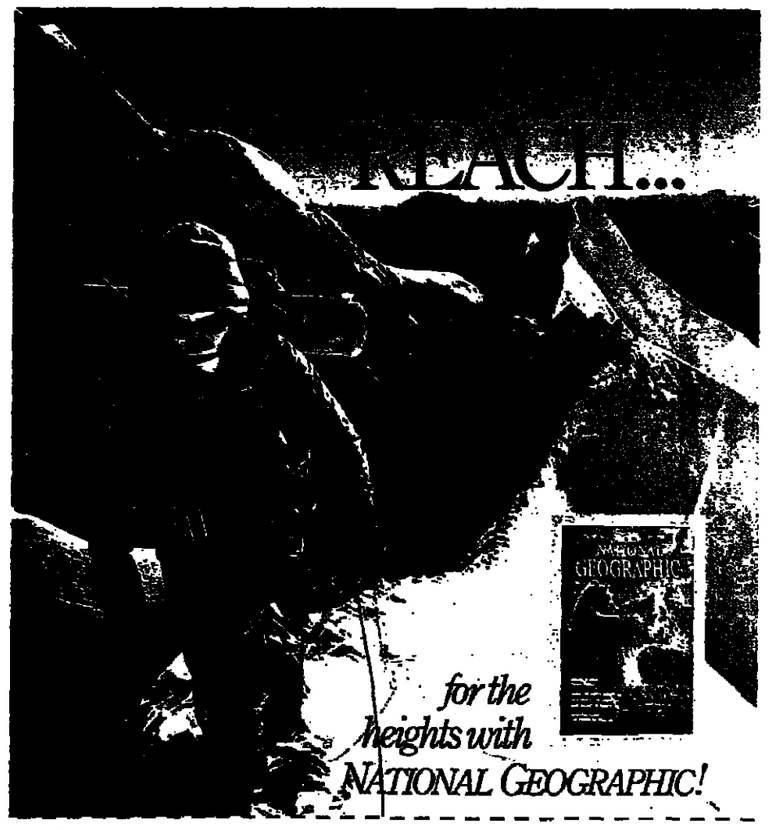
They are Miss Helen Sharman, aged 26, a research technologist at Mars Confectionery in Slough; Dr Gordon Brooks, 33, a Royal Navy doctor and a Falklands War veteran who volunteered to be an astronaut by writing to the Ministry of Aviation when he was 10; Major Timothy Mace, 33, of the Army Air Corps, who is the British freefall parachuting champion; and Mr Clive Smith, 27, lecturer in acronautical engineering and space technology, Kingston Polytechnic, Surrey.

In the tradition of choosing crews for spaceflight, two will be named, providing a first choice and a back-up.

But the selection process has been an arduous one, as a candidate who reached the group from which the last four were picked testifies in the latest issue of the *New Scientist* magazine.

Mr Jeremy Curtis, aged 27, is a space project engineer at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, near Oxford, who designs instruments to be launched into orbit.

Reflecting on the selection process for the Juno project, he compares the meticulous care that is needed to devise an instrument that will withstand the rigours of spaceflight with the physical and psychological tests used to determine the fitness of a person to fly in space.



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STREET

CITY COUNTY

COUNTRY, POST CODE

TT2

Ambulance staff offered new pay body

By Tim Jones and Kerry Gill

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, last night said he proposed to establish a new negotiating body for ambulance crews.

He said it would enable the Association of Professional Ambulance Personnel, members of which are not taking part in the present dispute, to have an effective say in determining pay and conditions in the industry.

Leaders of the five main unions, whose members are taking industrial action over the Government's pay offer, which they claim is worth only 6.5 per cent, said the move was designed to undermine and destabilize their 11-week old action. They denied that the association represented 20 per cent of crews.

The new negotiating body is designed to run in parallel with the existing Whitley Council structure which traditionally negotiates terms for all 22,500 ambulance workers.

In a letter to Mr Roger Poole, the union chief negotiator, Mr Clarke said: "The association represents over 20 per cent of ambulance staff but they are excluded from the staff side of the Whitley Council by Nupe (the National Union of Public Employees) and the other unions."

Meanwhile, the ambulance service throughout the country deteriorated yesterday. The Scottish Ambulance Service said it would suspend any employee who refused to carry out normal duties from Monday. Management said the number of ambulance journies cancelled had increased 10-fold since the dispute escalated earlier this week.

Since Wednesday, Scottish crews have been operating only accident and emergency services as well as catering for specific groups such as renal dialysis patients and children aged under 14.

In a statement yesterday, the management said: "Because it is now clear that a large number of patient transport staff are not carrying out their full responsibilities it would obviously not be defensible to continue paying full pay."

It is expected that any ambulanceman or woman who refuses to carry out an instruction from 7.0am on Monday will be sent home. If this happens, all 1,600 staff in Scotland will consider themselves suspended, but will report for work without pay.

Mr Bill Campbell, Glasgow district secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said: "We anticipate that the calls will still come through and that the men will respond."

West Midlands firemen last night refused to work with military and voluntary emergency medics. They said they would rather ferry casualties to hospitals aboard fire engines than call in volunteers.

The Fire Brigade's Union plans to issue full lists of ambulance station telephone numbers to fire crews, and will tell them to call an ambulance direct rather than use the military or volunteers. They plan to upgrade first aid equipment aboard fire engines to help the injured.

Much of the north east of England was without emergency cover after crews in Tyne and Wear and Northumberland said they considered themselves locked out.

In Greater Manchester, management and union officials said no delays in answering 999 calls were being experienced by ambulance staff's restrictions on the use of their radios, while in Derbyshire, talks between aimed at ending the use of police vans to take people to hospital broke down.

Although ambulance union leaders have said their members will not be "starved into submission" they are facing pressure from some ambulance crews, particularly those with mortgages and families. Mr Poole has already admitted that he will be willing to settle for less than the 11.4 per cent they were originally demanding.

● A pregnant woman being taken to hospital in an Army ambulance suffered cuts and bruises when it was involved in a collision in London.

Earlier, the Army delivered its first child, a girl called Sarah, since taking over emergency calls in the London. The mother was in the back of an Army land rover on her way to Whittington Hospital, Archway, north London, when she gave birth.

Mr Lee Oliver and Miss Tamar Irvine, of Wood Green, north London, with their daughter, Sarah, who became the first baby to be delivered by the Army during the present dispute.

Hurd says no new members of EC 'in near future'

By Nigel Williamson, Political Staff

Mr Douglas Hurd yesterday closed the door against any new members of the European Community in the near future, in his first significant speech in the Commons since he was appointed Foreign Secretary.

He did, however, hold out the prospect to Eastern European countries of membership of the wider Council of Europe, if they were prepared to ratify the European Convention on Human Rights.

Speaking on the fourth day of the debate on the Queen's Speech, Mr Hurd praised President Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, who he said was largely responsible for the changes in Eastern Europe.

"It is in the Western interest that Soviet policies which have contributed so much to improved East-West relations should be sustained. That is also in the long-term interests of the Soviet people. We shall therefore continue to give Mr Gorbachov support and encouragement".

Mr Hurd said he hoped the forthcoming US-Soviet summit would provide additional impetus to further arms control measures, and pledged Britain to play a full part in the conventional disarmament talks being held in Vienna.

On opening up the EC to the East, however, the Foreign Secretary said: "Nothing is gained by forcing the pace. We do not believe that in the near future it is likely to receive new full members. We are not attracted by the notion that we should in some way dilute the strength of the community by enlarging it. There is a heavy workload for the existing members."

He suggested, however, that "new forms of association" for countries such as Hungary and Poland could be built on existing trade and co-operation agreements. In addition, the Council of Europe, which has 23 West European member nations, should be ready to accept East European countires which commit themselves to democracy and human rights.

Mr Hurd said Britain was an enthusiastic member of the EC and had a better record of compliance with European directives than almost any other nation.

On the Vietnamese boat people, he said Britain had "no choice" but to repatriate them from Hong Kong. The influx of 57,000 refugees was putting an intolerable strain on the territory. Everything was being done to persuade them to return voluntarily, he said.

NUMBER X. OF SWEET FAREWELLS (AND SWEETER BEGINNINGS).

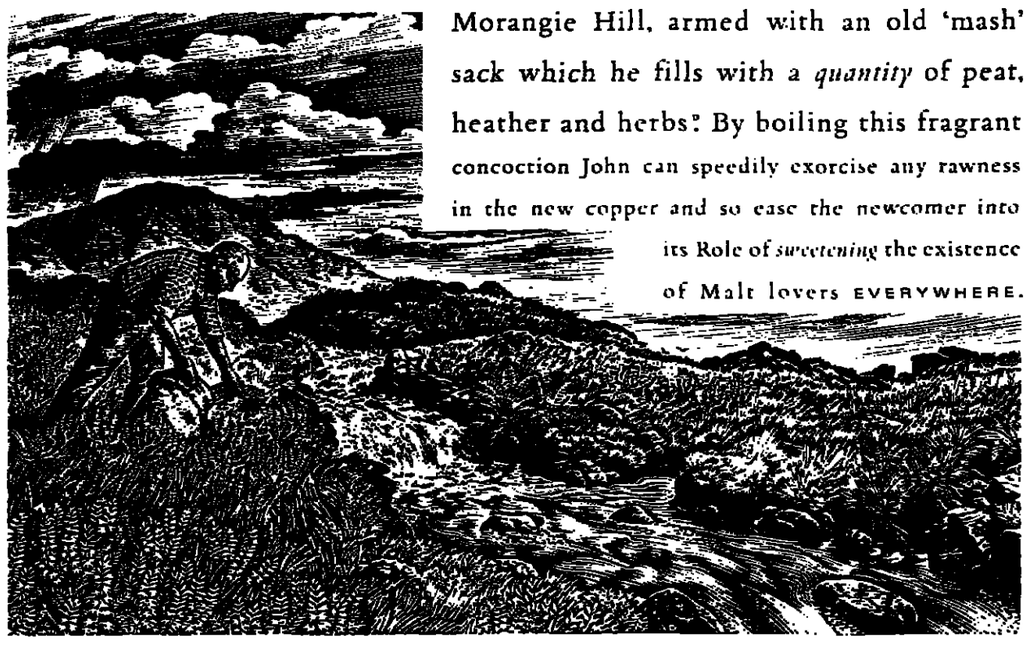
GLENMORANGIE

10 YEARS OLD

SINGLE HIGHLAND MALT

SCOTCH WHISKY

John Murray is a Seasoned Observer of the effects of Time and Change upon the Men, and upon the whisky which his *skill* helps to coax from Ross-shire Barley and Spring Water; (to John falls the duty of WELCOMING in the new Distillation'). Over the years he must occasionally ACCOMMODATE a significant newcomer at the Distillery, in the elegant *swan-necked* shape of the New Still. The replacement of these Distillery work-horses involves John in a ritual known as 'Sweetening The Still'. This sends him away up the Morangie Hill, armed with an old 'mash' sack which he fills with a *quantity* of peat, heather and herbs†. By boiling this fragrant concoction John can speedily exorcise any rawness in the new copper and so ease the newcomer into its Role of *sweetening* the existence of Malt lovers EVERYWHERE.



A AN DISTILLERY PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN OFFICIATES AT ALL RETIREMENT CEREMONIES – EMOTIONAL EVENTS, GIVEN THAT THE MEN SPEND ON AVERAGE *Sixteen Years* LEARNING AND PRACTISING THEIR CRAFT.

B AN *Stillman*, HE MUST JUDGE PRECISELY *when* THE SPIRIT HAS ACQUIRED THE CHARACTER AND CLARITY OF NEW MALT: THIS HE WILL THEN *dispatch* TO THE CASK.

C. REPLACING A STILL IS A PARTICULARLY DISRUPTIVE EVENT AT GLENMORANGIE, AS IT INVOLVES THE *raising* OF THE STILL-HOUSE ROOF. BUT THEN THE DISTILLERY DOES INSIST UPON THE HIGHEST STILLS IN SCOTLAND – ENSURING THAT ONLY THE *purest* VAPOURS ASCEND TO CONDENSE INTO *the mellow Malt of Tain*

D SWEETENING THE STILL OCCURS DURING 'THE SILENT SEASON' – AUGUST – WHEN *peat and heather* ARE ESPECIALLY 'BLOOMY.'

†HANDCRAFTED *by the* SIXTEEN MEN *of* TAIN.

NEWS ROUNDUP

War widows vow to keep up fight

Campaigners for higher pensions for Britain's 55,000 widows who lost their husbands in the two world wars vowed to continue their fight yesterday (Sheila Gunn writes).

Despite the Government's insistence that it will not increase their pensions, they are planning to appeal again to the Prime Minister for those women whose husbands were killed before 1973 and so do not qualify for extra payments.

Field Marshal Lord Carver, the former Chief of the Defence Staff, said: "It is certainly not the end of the battle for all of those organizations which have been attempting to persuade governments of both colours since 1973 to do something about it." Mr Peter Viggers, a former minister and Conservative MP for Gosport, predicted that in the end the Government would be forced to give in.

The Government says the move will cost £200 million.

Sportsman 'took drug'

Mrs Trisha Hatch, the girlfriend of Tom Hawk, the British weightlifting record-holder who died from a heart attack in a strongman competition, yesterday admitted that he had taken drugs (John Goodbody writes). Mrs Hatch, of Slough, Berkshire, who had earlier denied Hawk had taken anabolic steroids, believed by many in the sport to have contributed to his death, said he did use the body building drugs for a year before he collapsed from a heart attack in July.

Contempt admitted

Mr William Goodwin, a journalist who has refused to obey a judge's order to hand over notes of a telephone conversation that could identify the source of leaked secrets about a company's finances, admitted contempt of court yesterday in the High Court, London. Mr Justice Hoffmann adjourned sentence until after an appeal is heard next week. The judge told Mr Goodwin, who works for *The Engineer* magazine, to reflect upon the moral position.

Libel damages for MP

Mr Thomas Pendry, Labour MP for Stalybridge and Hyde, yesterday accepted substantial, undisclosed, High Court libel damages and an apology from the *News of the World* over its article, headed "MP in sex games at Commons".

● Mr Des O'Connor, the entertainer, was also given a public apology and awarded substantial, undisclosed, High Court libel damages yesterday over an allegation by the *Mail on Sunday* that he was under investigation for tax evasion.

Nuns' chickens 'freed'

Animal rights activists yesterday released up to 5,000 hens belonging to a group of nuns who lost a High Court battle to save their salmonella-infected flock. Nuns at the Our Lady of Passion Monastery, near Daventry, Northants, later began rounding up the hens, which are scheduled to be killed off in the next few weeks. The monastery said the intruders had "gone on the rampage and broken everything they could". An animal rights group claimed responsibility.

Fishing boat capsizes

One man died and another was missing feared drowned yesterday after the Grey Flamingo, a fishing boat, capsized off the Cornish coast. Two other men were rescued by another fishing boat after leaping into freezing seas three miles south of Penzance. An air search for the skipper of the 60ft. Padstow-registered beam trawler was later called off. The fisherman who lost his life died in a Truro hospital after being winched into a Royal Navy helicopter.

Pay dispute lecturers to disrupt colleges

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

Three million further education college students face a winter of disrupted lectures and unmarked examinations after lecturers voted for industrial action in a pay dispute.

A ballot of 55,000 lecturers produced a two-thirds majority in favour of selective strikes and a ban on examination and assessment work in protest at a 5.3 per cent offer.

The local authority employers have offered fresh talks with the lecturers' union, the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, if it agrees to suspend the industrial action.

A union spokeswoman said after announcing the ballot result yesterday that its national executive would meet today to consider the employers' overtures.

If the peace bid fails the union intends to hold a national strike on December 7, with selective strikes in the regions later.

The examination and assessment boycott, which would disrupt almost all courses offered in Britain's 400 colleges of further education, is due to start on December 11.

Hopes of a settlement to the long running dispute were raised on Thursday after the local authority employers invited the union to new talks.

The union walked out of pay talks on September 8, describing the pay offer as "miserly". The union also rejected the employers' insistence on flexible working practices.

هكذا من الاصل

Girl died from a combination of pain, shock and exhaustion after vengeful beating

Martial arts fanatic gets life for killing daughter aged five

By Michael Horsnell

David Hammond, a martial arts fanatic, was jailed for life yesterday for beating his daughter aged five to death with a kettle flex because she could not spell her name.

The heavily built unemployed defendant showed no emotion as Mr Justice Phillips sentenced him at Bristol Crown Court and told the jury: "I feel the facts of this horrible case will live in your minds for ever."

The jury, which included seven women, took less than an hour to reach a unanimous verdict that he murdered his daughter Sukina at the family home in St Paul's, Bristol, last December.

Hammond, aged 26, was also given a six-month concurrent sentence for assaulting Miss Patricia Kent, his common-law wife. He had earlier admitted that charge.

Outside the court, police had to break up a scuffle between Hammond's relatives and friends and other members of the public.

Sukina lived in constant fear of beatings by her father, who assaulted her for much of her short, unhappy, life. Social workers were aware of the situation and Sukina was placed on the at-risk register of Avon social services department for 16 months, but she

Social workers held numerous case conferences but she slipped the safety net

was taken off it only four months before she was finally beaten to death.

Social workers held numerous case conferences over four years but she fell through their safety net.

The court had been told by Miss Kent, aged 30, during the four-day trial that Sukina had repeatedly pleaded, "Daddy, don't beat me", but Hammond carried on because, in her confusion, his daughter failed to spell her name.

He turned up the hi-fi to drown the noise, beat her for 20 minutes with the flex, punched her in the stomach and then, when the girl could no longer stand, dragged her upstairs by her long, dark hair before throwing her fully clothed into the bath.

Hammond, the father of two younger children by Miss Kent, was said to have subjected Sukina to a vengeful and sustained beating, using his fists, a ruler, and a piece of plastic tubing as well as the kettle flex.

The defendant, who holds yellow and white belt grades from the Korean martial art of Tae-Kwon Do, denied using his hands on his daughter but admitted he lost control and did not realize what he was doing.

Outwardly he was a doting father, proud of his children and anxious that they should do well at school, but inwardly he was a moody fitness fanatic who tutored Sukina in the martial arts.

All three children had been placed on the at-risk register following incidents in which Sukina and her three-year-old sister were taken to hospital with broken limbs.

Hammond encouraged his daughter to take an interest in Tae-Kwon Do and they trained together at a club in Church Road, Redfield, Bristol, where she was regarded as a willing pupil in spite of her age.

Neighbours would often see Hammond walking out proudly with his daughters, who were always well-clothed and healthy-looking, but behind the closed doors of the family's home Hammond behaved very differently.

Mr Richard Kellett, a Home Office pathologist, said that, in his 20 years' experience, he had never seen such injuries inflicted on a child. He estimated at least 50 blows were struck, most of them with an electric kettle flex, but there may have been more, he said, because many of the bruises merged.

Miss Kent said she tried to intervene but Hammond punched her in the eye.

Sukina died from a combination of "pain, shock and exhaustion" in the attack, according to Mr Kellett.

Mr Adrian Smith, headmaster of Cabot Primary School, Bristol, which Sukina attended, said after the case: "Everyone at the school was saddened and shocked. It brings home the question what should we have done before her death, or indeed what could we have done.

"There will be an examination into what the procedures are. Questions will be asked. We have a very good, thorough social services system. An astonishing amount of checks are done, but sadly Sukina fell through the trap."

The school has set up an appeal fund named after the little girl aimed at safeguarding other children.

Mr William Waldegrave, Conservative MP for Bristol West and Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said: "There must be a thorough going investigation as to whether any steps could have been taken to avoid this tragedy. I will ask for a report from social services to see what they have to say about it."

Miss Kent, who lived with Hammond for six years, said after the case: "Whatever they do to David will never bring my daughter back to me. I have got no feelings whatever towards him. But I cannot condemn him as he was a good father in a loving way. He just had a bad temper that he would not control."

She said if "something happened" to Sukina she would explain that she had fallen over.

David Hammond who was jailed yesterday for killing his daughter, Sukina (right), and assaulting Patricia Kent (top left).

Diary of Sukina's last weeks

How Sukina Hammond fell through social workers' net:

October 31, 1988: Misses school after half-term

November 9: School tells education welfare officer. Parents say she has chicken pox

November 16: Miss Sue Midgely, a social worker, receives anonymous call that the girl has been beaten; she goes to family home and says Sukina must be examined; the girl begins to undress but Hammond stops her; he eventually agrees to take girl to a doctor; Miss Midgely phones GP to tell him to strip-examine Sukina but he is not there. She tells a health visitor; message never reaches the doctor.

November 25: Hammond says the children have chest infections.

November 28: Welfare officer concerned at continued absence from school; goes to Hammond's house at 11am. Asks to see children but is refused. Hammond says he will not send Sukina back to school because it has given her "chicken pox and head lice"

November 30: Social workers "very concerned"

December 1: Case conference urged because situation "not making sense"

December 6: Sukina killed before conference meets.

PORTFOLIO PLATINUM

Four share prize of £2,000

Four winners shared a claim to yesterday's daily prize of £2,000 in The Times Portfolio Platinum competition, and each will receive £500.

The lucky four were Mrs Juliet Banks of Garstang Road, Barton, Preston, Lancashire; Mr W A Bentley of Chapel Walk, Worksop, Nottinghamshire; Mr Norman Russell, of Castle Street, Farnham, Surrey; and Mrs Gwen Bruce of Swanston Field, Whitchurch, Reading, Berkshire.

Mrs Bruce said yesterday that she had been doing Portfolio faithfully since its inception, and that she was thinking of putting her prize money toward a family trip to Australia.

"My two teenage daughters are keen on travel," she said, "and we have always wanted to go, but we had a big trip to India already this year so we may need to win again before we can afford the fare."

Killer is allowed to inherit

A wife who stabbed her unfaithful husband to death won her court battle to inherit most of his money yesterday.

Mona Gilchrist, aged 52, was admonished after admitting culpable homicide. She had stabbed Mr Hugh Gilchrist, aged 55, repeatedly last year after he told her he was going to live with his mistress. The court had heard how on his death-bed Mr Gilchrist forgave his wife.

At the Court of Session in Edinburgh yesterday Lord Kirkwood upheld Mrs Gilchrist's claim on the estate. Mrs Gilchrist of Crieff, Tayside, will get £10,760 of the £13,450 her husband left. He did not leave a will.

Lord Kirkwood set aside the 1982 Forfeiture Act which prohibits a person who has unlawfully killed another from benefiting from a death.

The judge said that the husband's adultery had made Mrs Gilchrist chronically depressed and she twice attempted suicide.

Lord Kirkwood said that on the night of the stabbing Mr Gilchrist woke his wife and told her he was leaving her to go to live with the other woman. "Mrs Gilchrist in a state of mind bordering on insanity stabbed him twice in the abdomen," the judge said.

The wounds would not have been expected to kill him had he been in good health but Mr Gilchrist had been suffering from severe kidney disease and died a month later.

Union vote

The Directors Guild of Great Britain representing 1,000 film, television and theatre directors, has voted to become a trade union.

Closure plea

Managers at Wexham Park Hospital at Slough, have been asked by the East Berkshire coroner, Mr Robert Wilson, to seal off a lake in the grounds which four psychiatric patients have leapt into and drowned.

New on air

Northern Ireland is to get a new independent radio station early next year. Cool FM, a music station to be based at Newtownards, Co Down, will be aimed at the 18-35 age group.

Drugs remand

Seven men were remanded in custody until December 22 by Dover magistrates charged over the discovery of more than 17 tons of cannabis on a ship at Dover in October. It is thought to be Britain's biggest drugs seizure.

Pianos burnt

A fire at the Bentley piano factory at Woodchester, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, has destroyed much of the stock.

Patient can sue for damages

A woman who claims she suffered an overdose of radiation to her breasts during an X-ray examination won the first round of her legal battle yesterday to claim damages against a health authority.

A High Court judge rejected the argument that Mrs Sheila Stephen, aged 57, of Shrubbs Hill, Sunningdale, Berkshire, could not bring the action because she was too late in issuing her writ.

Mrs Stephen suspected she had been exposed to excessive radiation when, shortly after a mammography examination in March, 1977, at Charing Cross Hospital, Hammersmith, west London, her breasts reddened and she suffered "sunburn" soreness, as well as dizziness, diarrhoea, vomiting and muscular pain, Mr Justice Auld said. She was repeatedly told by different doctors that she was suffering from the menopause; however, her menopause did not start until 10 years later.

Mrs Stephen finally issued a writ against Riverside Health Authority on February 15 last year. She claimed damages for reddening of the skin, moist spots between her breasts, pain and anxiety as a result of them and continuing anxiety caused by increased risk of cancer.

She also sought an order allowing her to return to court at a future date to claim further damages if she developed breast or skin cancer.

The health authority denied liability and alleged that Mrs Stephen was barred from bringing the action because she had acted too late.

The judge said Mrs Stephen wrote to the hospital in April, 1977, alleging the mammography had been negligently conducted. She requested a full investigation.

However, it was not until February 1985 that a medical expert contacted by her solicitors said that he thought something wrong had happened in the conduct of the mammography. The judge decided that this was the first time that Mrs Stephen learned that, on the strength of her symptoms alone, there was a possiblity they were caused by excessive radiation.

Her writ, issued on February 15 1988, was therefore within the three-year limit after the date when she became aware she may have a case.

The full hearing will probably be held next year.

Aldington libel case

Award must mirror 'falsity of charges'

By Robin Young

The jury in the libel action brought by Lord Aldington in the High Court were asked yesterday to award the peer "substantial damages – of sufficient size to demonstrate to the world at large clearly" that he had been falsely accused.

Mr Charles Gray, QC, representing Lord Aldington, concluded his closing speech at the end of the eighth week of the trial in which the former deputy chairman of the Conservative Party is suing the author, Count Nikolai Tolstoy, and Mr Nigel Watts.

Mr Watts distributed a pamphlet written by Count Tolstoy, which described Lord Aldington as a war criminal whose part in the forced repatriation of Yugoslavs and Cossacks at the end of the last war could be compared with "the worst butchers of Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia".

Mr Gray said that the award should compensate Lord Aldington for the damage to his reputation and for the "intense distress" and "agony" he had been caused by the accusations, the publicity given to the trial and the 30 hours of cross-examination he had undergone in the witness box.

Count Tolstoy and Mr Watts had combined in a witch-hunt against Lord Aldington, Count Tolstoy, in the course of the case, had made "the most astonishing charges against a very wide range of people", including senior British officers and politicians. It suggested, Mr Gray claimed, that the count had "totally lost his grip on reality".

The defendants had been unable to explain why Lord Aldington should, as they alleged, have deliberately rephrased an order to send 6,000 Slovenians to their deaths. The picture the defence presented was "inherently incredible", Mr Gray said, and their charges "grotesque, insulting nonsense and bunkum". The jury should not only reject the defence of justification but also that of fair comment. The defendants were, he said, each guilty of malice.

Mr Watts had pursued Lord Aldington, formerly chairman of the Sun Alliance insurance company, over an unpaid claim, "incessantly phoning his office and home".

Count Tolstoy had joined forces with Mr Watts, who had paid for advertisements and a researcher on Count Tolstoy's behalf. Mr Watts, Mr Gray said, admitted that he was altogether innocent of the historical facts in the case. Count Tolstoy's claim to be a fair-minded and objective historian giving Lord Aldington the benefit of any doubt was "far-fetched and ludicrous".

Mr Justice Michael Davies will start his summing-up on Monday.

How a hijack gives life a fresh slant

For the past three years Michael Thexton has treated missing a train or being shouted at by the boss with equanimity (Michael Horsnell writes).

"When you've spent several hours on your knees waiting to be shot by a gang of hijackers you tend to develop a sense of proportion about everyday matters," he said yesterday.

Mr Thexton, a lecturer in accountancy from Tolworth, London, was lined up for execution aboard a stranded Boeing 747 at Karachi Airport in 1986 after it was stormed by four men demanding the freedom of PLO terrorists jailed in Cyprus.

At a seminar on endurance and survival organized by Survival Aids at the Royal Geographical Society, Mr Thexton, aged 30, recounted his ordeal, which ended in a bloody shoot-out in which over 20 passengers were killed.

Mr Thexton, who was returning from an expedition to the Himalayas when his 16-hour ordeal began, said: "At first it was numbing. I couldn't respond. I was so stunned by the horror of it. It's not possible to prepare yourself for this sort of thing.

"I then had to try to come to terms with the situation. I kept saying to myself that people always get out of a hijack, so why shouldn't I? I just tried to make myself inconspicuous."

The terrified passengers were ordered to hand in their passports. Mr Thexton's was singled out and he was ordered to the front of the aircraft. He was made to kneel by the open door of the jet.

"I realized someone always gets shot and it was very likely to be me," he said. "What I then had to do – the lesson I took away from the experience – was to come to terms with the certainty that I was going to be killed.

"I had to learn to accept it, and once I had done so it didn't seem so frightening. I was kept at the front for the entire day and saw no prospect of getting out of my predicament.

"I started off by saying goodbye in my mind to all my friends. Then I determined I wasn't going to protest to my captors. I was going to be like the condemned man on the gallows and shake my executioner by the hand."

Inexplicably, the hijackers made him join the rest of the passengers just before they sprayed the airliner with gunfire.

"I managed to escape through the open door. But it was like a nightmare in reverse. Even though I had got away, I kept thinking that I would be taken back on the plane and that they would shoot me.

"Later I kept thinking how wonderful it was to be alive. Now things in my life are different, though it's hard to say to what degree they are better or worse. I am more aware that unexpected things can happen. I have a better sense of proportion. Being late for a train or having your boss shout at you are not worth worrying about."

Mr Thexton, who is engaged to be married, added: "Survival technique is about getting your mind prepared. Unless you have control of your mind you aren't able to escape, even if the opportunity arises. You have to win control of the panic."

Mr Thexton: "I am more aware unexpected things happen."

£74.5m college repair plan

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

A £74.5 million repair programme is to be launched to bring Britain's 84 polytechnics and colleges of higher education up to the standards required by health, safety and fire regulations, it was announced yesterday.

The emergency programme will be funded partly by students through rents for campus accommodation. However the bulk of the money will come from the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council. The repairs were called for yesterday in a report commissioned by the council from the surveyors Hunter and Partners. It said that £625.8 million needed to be spent on building repairs by 1994. As well as the £72.5 million "priority one" work, the report said that £188.2 million would be needed over the next two years to carry out essential repairs to plug leaking roofs and remove asbestos. A further £363.1 million would be required by 1994 to bring buildings up to "serviceable standards" of repair.

The council said yesterday that £12.5 million-worth of the most urgent repairs related to halls of residence which were "self financing" as institutions would meet the bill from rent income.

A start would be made on the remaining £60 million-worth of work in the present financial year with £12 million from the council and £8 million from the institutions.

The council plans to make a further £51 million available in the year 1990-91 for building repairs and talks are underway on raising the rest of the £625.8 million.

The Government announced in the autumn statement that an extra £60 million would be made available for capital spending on polytechnics and colleges over the next three years.

Polytechnics and colleges have particular problems because they have many 1960s buildings which suffer the faults common to that era's buildings.

£2,000 bounty offered to licensed teachers

An education authority is to pay up to £2,000 above the going rate for teachers in an attempt to attract people from industry to fill vacancies (Douglas Broom writes).

Kent County Council is to appoint up to 50 "licensed" teachers at a salary of £10,167, compared to the normal starting rate for non-graduates of £8,394. Candidates must be at least 26-years-old and have completed two years' post-school education.

Mr Dennis Hunter, chairman of the council's support services sub-committee, which approved the decision, said Kent had 74 unfilled teaching vacancies.

The plan was condemned by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers as "outrageous".

Doctor 'let non-medical man treat Aids patient'

A man with no medical qualifications was allowed to treat a woman who was dying of Aids with an untested "cure", a disciplinary hearing of the General Medical Council heard yesterday.

Mr Jabar Sultan allegedly gave so-called "adoptive immunotherapy" treatment to the woman, who went to Browning's clinic, a private clinic in London's West End, in the presence of Dr James Sharp, the clinic's director.

Dr Sharp, of Grove Lane, Camberwell, south London, who ran the clinic in Wimpole Street for two years, is accused of serious professional misconduct. He faces several charges, including using the therapy a year after being warned against it by a senior lecturer in clinical immunology, who pointed out the risks in treating Aids patients with new theories.

A witness said her daughter consulted Dr Sharp in 1988 and treatment took place at the London Bridge Hospital, London, in May. Her daughter died last November. "Dr Sharp said Dr Sultan was the brains behind the outfit and to refer any queries to him."

The hearing continues.

Scaling the mountains of 'Eurojargon'

By Libby Jukes

Closer European integration holds a fate worse than the dreaded monetary system and even more difficult for the layman to understand. Never mind the nation's identity, its sanity faces a far greater threat than a common currency could ever pose: a single bureacracy with its own impenetrable lingo.

This warning came at the 10th annual award ceremony yesterday of the Plain English campaign.

Miss Chrissie Maher, campaign director, said: "For us, 1992 means Eurojargon, more European mountains to climb. I shall go bananas. Unclear instructions can cost lives and, at the very least, a lot of money. An error rate of one per cent for returns of government forms costs the taxpayer £1 million, and the average rate is more like 33 per cent."

This year, the government departments of Social Security, Employment, Trade and Industry and the Inland Revenue unexpectedly swept the board with the clarity of their information leaflets.

Also commended were Southampton Health Education Service for its "Don't Take A Chance" poster to promote breast screening, the Family Planning Information Service, and Hammersmith and Fulham Council for its community charge leaflet.

Winners of the 10 Golden Ball booby prizes, the Oscars of officialese, stole the show, however. Actors from the Zone Theatre Group read various examples of literary hooliganism, including an extract from an interim report by the Northern Regional Health Authority, containing the proposition that: "An information strategy will of necessity be a continuously developing concept. The process of clarification will be incremental, and concept of a definitive strategy will remain illusory."

A sentence from a *Daily Telegraph* law report scored 91 words and no commas.

Clearly believing that any publicity is better than none, three "winners" turned up to collect their trophies from BBC TV presenter Chris Serlecheck. Protesting shame and promising to do better next time were representatives from Glaxo, Frizell Insurance and Financial Services and a Staffordshire firm, STC Technology Limited.

With their new, fashionably green slogan, "Save A Tree – Use Plain English", the campaign organizers believe they cannot fail to win public support as they boldly go to beard the bureaucrats in Brussels.

ORDERED AUCTION
over two days
19th AND 20th CENTURY BRONZE SCULPTURES
IRANIAN & RUSSIAN BRASS AND COPPER
PERSIAN, CAUCASIAN, TURKESTAN, ANATOLIAN AND SIND CARPETS & RUGS
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British health policies will affect how rest of the world reacts, WHO expert says

Commitment to fight against Aids 'must not be lowered'

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

A leading expert on Aids warned yesterday that any indication that the Government was giving a lower priority to campaigns concerning Aids would have international repercussions.

If Britain was seen to be reducing its commitment to the fight against Aids then that could have "extremely destructive" consequences on prevention programmes in many other countries, Dr Jonathan Mann, of the World Health Organization, said.

Speaking at a conference organized by the Government, Dr Mann, director of the organization's global programme on Aids, praised the "energetic and pioneering leadership" of the United Kingdom's Aids policies and projects, which he said had been a model and an "inspiring example" of what could be done to protect public health.

However, Dr Mann later privately expressed concern about recent signs that the Government was placing less importance than had previously on the Aids threat.

He highlighted the cancellation of a national survey of sexual behaviour, the indefinite postponement of a television campaign promoting increased condom use among teenagers and young adults and radical changes in the Aids division of the Government-funded Health Education Authority.

Yesterday, it emerged that the Department of Health had postponed TV and newspaper advertisements on Aids which the HEA had planned for tomorrow. The £1 million exercise was put back because of Government doubts about its timing, sources within the department said. The advertisements would have quoted experts on the risks of heterosexual spread of Aids.

Dr Mann said: "Britain is at a crossroads in the way it evolves its Aids policies and the direction in which it goes will have an impact on how the rest of the world reacts.

"If other countries detect a net decrease in concern and an increase in complacency, bringing Aids programmes in Britain down to the level of some other health programmes, that will send a shock wave around the world that could be extremely destructive.

"Aids programmes have to evolve but this is a dangerous time in their evolution.

"If there is a loss of courage or complacency wins the day, the epidemic will come to dominate our lives."

Speaking to the conference, Dr Mann said: "At great human cost the foundation for successful action has been built in many countries, including the UK.

"Yet if complacency, indifference or denial lead to relaxation of current efforts or to a decrease in future committment to Aids, we will falter and fall further behind the pace of the epidemic."

He said the health organization estimated that 500,000 people might develop Aids in 1990 and 1991, compared to the 186,000 cases officially reported since the global epidemic began in the early 1980s.

By the year 2000, around six million people could have developed the disease, he said. Yet even those estimates were conservative.

Mrs Virginia Bottomley, the Minister for Health, told the conference that the world stood at a crossroads in its policy on educating the public about the risks posed by Aids. "We cannot afford to be complacent about what we are doing, we constantly need to appraise our objectives as well as the direction and effectiveness of the policies. Where necessary, we must be prepared to adjust them in the light of developing knowledge and scientific advice.

"We must carry public opinion with us if the campaign is to be both credible and effective. No one can afford the luxury of complacency. It would be frankly unthinkable for a responsible Government to fail to act in the face of the Aids threat."

Ruling opens door to thousands of Sunday trade cases

By Suzy Price

Up to 2,000 Sunday trading cases are to proceed against stores after the European Court of Justice ruling on Thursday that such cases should be decided in United Kingdom courts.

However, many shops are still preparing to open for business as usual tomorrow.

As many as 2,000 cases against DIY, video and convenience food shops, which were adjourned pending the judgement, will now go ahead, although the outcome is far from certain, as both sides are claiming the Luxembourg ruling as a victory.

The ruling arose after B & Q, the DIY retailers, was taken to the European Court by Torfaen borough council for opening its branch in Cwmbran in Gwent on a Sunday. Torfaen council said it would now proceed with four outstanding cases, two against Texas and two against B & Q, which were adjourned for the ruling.

Mr Bryn Jones, deputy director of environmental health for the council, said: "The first B & Q case is in the hands of the magistrates' court now but we would want it to continue." It was likely the magistrates would rule against the store and that the case would be taken to appeal, he added.

"We would like to get the situation cleared up. We would much rather spend our time on food hygiene. Nobody has ever died from Sunday trading."

Mr Andrew Currie, of the Sunday Shopping Hours Reform Council, said he knew of about 1,300 cases that were still to be tried and thought the backlog was more like 2,000, of which about 1,000 are thought to be connected with five or six large DIY retail chains.

B & Q, W.H. Smith Do It All and Sainsbury Homebase will be opening some of their stores on Sunday.

Birmingham City Council will now go ahead with about 12 cases against B & Q, Do It All and Texas Homecare; in Swansea there are about 20 adjourned cases against six or seven large stores. Newcastle upon Tyne has one outstanding case. Councils such as Coventry and Norwich have pressed ahead with prosecutions without waiting for the European Court ruling.

Some councils said they may seek a High Court injunction against persistent offenders.

Banks dispute fuelling level of personal debt

Banks and financial institutions yesterday denied that irresponsible lending had increased consumer debt (Mark Souster writes).

The Prime Minister, in her exclusive interview with *The Times* yesterday, was critical of some lending policy, believing those least able to pay were being encouraged to borrow.

The "buy now, pay later" syndrome was being fuelled by persuasive advertising such as "Take the waiting out of wanting," she said.

However, banks, credit card agencies and stores were adamant that rigorous vetting procedures were implemented before credit was approved. They all said that it made no commercial sense to lend money to people who could not repay it.

The National Consumer Council said that of about £267 billion of personal debt in Britain, 84 per cent was for mortgages, partly due to government home-ownership policies. Consumer credit levels amounted to only £43.4 billion, at March this year; 17 per cent was on credit cards.

"More and more people are paying them off without incurring interest," the council said.

The National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux said "We are very concerned at the high levels of indebtedness."

Wildlife thrives in shadow of chimneys

TED DITCHBURN

Mr Alex Weir, a conservation officer, on the lookout for birds on Coatham Marsh, the site of one of Britain's unlikeliest conservation success stories (Peter Davenport writes).

The marsh is a nature reserve run by the Cleveland Wildlife Trust, whose 57 acres of land stand alongside a bleak urban industrialized landscape. The marsh is flanked by the backstreets of Redcar and other sites stand in the shadows of Hartlepool's nuclear power station, the British Steel complex and the ICI works at Billingham and Wilton, one of the largest chemicals sites in Europe. The trust, however, has become the fastest growing organization of its kind in Britain, and this month celebrates its tenth anniversary.

It was formed largely as a response to threats to reclaim the last acres of Seal Sands — Teeside's expanse of mud flats, internationally renowned as a haven for seabirds ducks and waders — for industry.

It is presently waiting for the Secretary of State for the Environment to approve an agreement which will preserve the site.

"Many people would come here and take one look at the landscape and its environment and immediately decide that it simply couldn't be of any attraction to birds, animals or plant life," Mr Weir said. "Yet there is a fantastic amount of life out there which has adapted to the changes brought about by man's industrialization and is thriving."

The sites exist in one of the most hostile of locations in which to establish a wildlife trust but one which has valuable lessons to teach other urban, industrial areas how to encourage birds, animals and plants to survive and prosper in such unlikely environments. The area is an open air laboratory for studying the impact of industrial man on birds, animals and plants and the ability of such life to survive and prosper, Mr Weir said.

The trust, now with 1,400 members, has established a partnership with local industry and employers such as British Steel and ICI who have taken practical steps to express their concern for the environment, which they have done so much to affect, including leasing important land for nature reserves. Industry has grasped the value of conserving green wedges of land in urban landscapes, Mr Weir added.

Patten's green Bill pre-empted by peer

By Sheila Gunn, Political Reporter

Mr Christopher Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, has hit a snag with his much vaunted "green" Bill: somebody has stolen his title.

He had planned to introduce his Environment Protection Bill with some ceremony next month in the Commons. However, Lord Cranbrook, a leading conservationist, thwarted his plans by quietly publishing his own Environment Protection Bill on Thursday. Since parliamentary rules do not allow two Bills with identical titles in the same session, Mr Patten faces the choice of renaming his legislation or suffering the indignity of adding "No 2" to his Bill.

Even worse is the wide scope of the Conservative peer's 39-page Bill, which could show up the much more modest measures expected in the Government legislation. The private peer's legislation sets up an environment protection commission and an environment protection executive with strong anti-pollution enforcement powers. Its drafting shadows the European Community's fourth environmental action plan and the Bruntland Commission's world conservation strategy.

Lord Cranbrook's "green" credentials are impeccable. He has headed the National Federation of Zoological Gardens and the Lords EC environment select committee, and has been a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution and the Natural Environment Research Council. He is also president of the Rain Forest Club.

'One species a week is facing extinction'

One animal becomes extinct nearly every week and the rate is increasing, a conference in London was told yesterday.

Vertebrates alone are dying out at the rate of one every three or four weeks and over the next 50 years, about 2,000 will face extinction.

Dr Ulysses Seal, a captive breeding specialist, said 80 per cent of the conservation problem related to the growing human population. Other dangers included natural disasters such as hurricanes. The "endless list" of threatened species included the South China tiger, the Javan rhinoceros, the Bali myna, several grebes, the Puerto Rican parrot, several lemurs, and the Hawaiian crow.

Speaking at a symposium on captive breeding and the reintroduction of species to the wild at the Zoological Society of London, Dr Seal said he personally knew of nine species which have become extinct in the last three months. "We did not know in time that they were in trouble. They were simply lost."

Species that had recently died out in the wild but were surviving in captivity included the California condor, black-footed ferret and the red wolf. Dr Seal, chairman of the captive breeding specialist group at the International Union for Conservation of Nature, said captive populations were the only hope for the survival of dozens of species.

He called for improved working arrangements between wildlife and forestry agencies, field biologists and the captive breeders.

November 24 1989

PARLIAMENT

Hurd maintains Britain is pressing ahead in Europe

QUEEN'S SPEECH

Britain's role in the European Community was strongly defended by Mr Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, when he opened the fourth day's debate on the Queen's Speech.

In his first speech in the Commons as Foreign Secretary, he said: "We are the ones who are pushing forward the single market programme — the most tangible expression of Community ideals. We are the ones who are scrupulous in implementing what has been agreed.

"We are the ones who are urging the Community to think carefully about the form of its future development. We are playing in the centre of the field and intend to hold that position."

The Community, he said, lay at the heart of the Government's foreign policy, its trading policy and its concept of the United Kingdom's place in Europe and beyond. It provided a framework and meeting place for member states to reach naturally and quickly a common view on the course for Europe.

It was in the Community's own interest to move forward in an orderly way. There was nothing to be gained by forcing the pace. It was not likely that, in the near future, it would receive new members.

"We are not attracted by the notion that we should in some way dilute the strength of the Community by enlarging it. There is a heavy workload for the existing members and we want to concentrate on that."

The first priority was to complete the single market. Progress was being made, but too slowly. Britain was in the fast track urging the others on.

"There is always a temptation for Community enthusiasts to flit from one flower to another in the rich meadows of Brussels. Here a new charter, there a new conference, there a treaty amendment. It can be intoxicating stuff. We prefer a more sober approach."

Britain now had only three of the 71 single market measures left to implement. The so-called reluctant European was the Commission's ally in speeding up the pace.

"On the charge of being half-hearted Europeans, we are innocent. We plead guilty to the charge of working and arguing for a liberal and open Europe. But that is not a crime. It is a necessity."

The differences within the Community were often overdramatized. Its history was of agreements reached after prolonged and lively discussion.

Earlier, Mr Hurd said that in eastern Europe, the cause of peace ruled because a profound revolution was under way. The changes were unparallelled since the revolutions of 1848 which, for the most part, ended in violence and disappointment.

"We salute the courage and wisdom of those using the peaceful process to break down the barriers that separated them from freedom." It was only the beginning of a long and difficult transformation.

Britain and its EC partners believed that the reforming countries should be invited into the Council of Europe. Membership was open to any democratic European country that was ready to ratify the European Convention on Human Rights.

It was Mr Gorbachov's policies in the Soviet Union which had made the changes possible in eastern Europe. He had had the courage and clarity of vision to see the writing on the iron curtain and to accept and even to encourage change.

It was in western interests that Soviet policies, which had contributed much to improved East-West relations, should be sustained. The Government would therefore continue to support and encourage Mr Gorbachov. The Community approach coincided with that of the United States and that could be conveyed at the forthcoming summit between the United States and the Soviet Union.

On December 4, President Bush would brief Nato leaders in Brussels on the results of those talks. The Government hoped that the summit would provide additional impetus towards further measures of arms conrol.

Agreement at the talks on Conventional Forces in Europe next year would mean the elimination of the massive conventional superiority and offensive capacity of the Warsaw Pact forces.

That would transform the military security situation in Europe and bring greater stability when it was most needed in times of great change.

Despite its arguments, or perhaps because of them, the European Community remained an outstanding example of the way in which free nations, working together, could cooperate to bring about a different kind of revolution.

The presence in Hong Kong of almost 57,000 Vietnamese boat people was placing an intolerable strain on the territory's patience and resources. It was probable that around 40,000 of those now in Hong Kong would not qualify as refugees.

"They are not going to be resettled and it surely cannot be humane to leave them indefinitely in camps in Hong Kong. The reality is that their only future home is in Vietnam."

He had been forced to the conclusion that Britain could not responsibly avoid the difficult question of involuntary repatriation. "In practice, we are left with little choice."

Thatcher is accused of lacking reality

The Prime Minister came in for bitter attack from two senior Labour MPs during the continuing debate on the Queen's Speech.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, likened Mrs Thatcher to "the Ceausescu of Nato".

It was significant, he said, that given the chance Mrs Thatcher, like the Romanian dictator, intended to stay in office permanently.

Mr Denis Healey (Leeds, East, Lab) said that in this changing world, the only thing which seemed incapable of change was the British Prime Minister. Her resolute refusal to recognize reality was the dismay and despair of her colleagues in the Government.

Mr Kaufman said that the Foreign Secretary had the unenviable assignment of acting as an intermediary between the Prime Minister and reality.

The bizarre antics of the Prime Minister created problems for all Foreign Secretaries. They were beyond Sir Geoffrey Howe and the present Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Britain was on the margins of the EC, Nato and the Commonwealth. The international community knew that Britain was on its own. *The Times* wrote about Mrs Thatcher's lone opposition, that Britain had drifted further into isolation on the EC.

Mrs Thatcher was the Ceausescu of Nato. She was out of tune with developments in the western Alliance in the same way that the Romanian dictator was in his.

It was a terrible situation for a Foreign Secretary to endure. While Britain was no longer a world power, or had aspirations to become a super power, it had under successive governments earned a reputation that should not be frittered away.

Now Britain was widely seen as negative and obstructive. The Government's performance at the Commonwealth heads of government summit in Kuala Lumpur was disgraceful.

It was time that the Government made up its mind about its role. The Prime Minister was trying to imply that the choice was between Britain going it alone and hindering every development on the one hand, and on the other Britain merging its identity and history in a kind of processed-cheese Community.

Pretending that those were the alternatives and that she must adopt the first in order to prevent the second the Mrs Thatcher, in a series of manic tantrums, blocked everything she could lay her hands on.

The Single European Act was now British law and that was the context in which we had to work, in active co-operation with our partners. Mr Hurd had to stop the Prime Minister rampaging from meeting to meeting wrecking positive developments and making the United Kingdom the pariah of the Community.

Never was a positive role more essential in the light of the dramatic events taking place in eastern Europe. The Foreign Secretary must be wriggling in discomfort as the Prime Minister sought to make narrow domestic capital out of a human drama which would take its place in twentieth century history.

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C), chairman of the foreign affairs select committee, said that it would be a catastrophe if this country was marginalized in Europe. "We must remain at the centre of these debates and arguments." While it might stand alone on certain issues, the UK must seek allies as it had done in the past.

France and the Federal Republic of Germany were utterly determined to go ahead with the second and third stages of the Delors plan, the reform of treaties and European monetary union, the single central bank and the social charter.

Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterand were both literally and symbolically going to hold hands and move forward on these issues and take some extremely radical decisions.

Mr Healey: Russian empire will break up in 10 years.

He foresaw that countries in eastern Europe would go through a hideous valley of tears. They were all in great economic difficulty. He feared that Czechoslovakia would be the first example of the wonderful process going tragically and disastrously wrong in the very short term.

Mr Healey said that there was now a possibility of creating a pan-European framework which could safely contain a re-united Germany.

That would mean extending the Community to include its eastern neighbours such as Poland, Hungary and, probably by the end of the century, the Baltic States; possibly, even Russia, the Ukraine and Georgia.

That was if, as he believed, the Russian empire broke up in the next 10 years. "To refuse to consider enlarging the Community until some impossible development has taken place is to miss opportunities which are enormously more exciting than those presented by the Community in its present form."

In this changing world, the only one thing which seemed incapable of change was the British Prime Minister. Her resolute refusal to recognize reality was the dismay and despair of her friends on her own from bench.

As a result, Britain was now as isolated in the Community and Nato as it had been at the Commonwealth conference.

"Now we hear that the Prime Minister intends to stay on for ever by popular acclaim.

"So any hope which the chairman of the Conservative Party had of playing Otto Krentz to her Honecker, and that Michael Heseltine had of playing Modrow to the Chairman of the Tory Party's Otto Krentz, has gone.

"It is clear that the Prime Minister intends to be a Ceausescu of the West and the main function of the Tory Party chairman at the next conference will be to arrange 69 standing ovations for her.

"I do appeal to the Prime Minister's colleagues on the Government front bench and in the Cabinet now to sink their personal rivalries and ambitions and to unite in compelling the Prime Minister not necessarily to resign but at least to recognize reality.

"They may well discover that if they succeed in persuading her to recognize reality they will succeed in persuading her to resign as well."

Mr Cecil Franks (Barrow and Furness, C) said that one of the most encouraging aspects of the Queens's Speech was the continuing commitment to strong defences and nuclear deterrence.

His constituency was home to the Trident missile. But if Labour won power in an election on Thursday, formed a Government on Friday, and on Saturday the new Cabinet agreed to cancel Trident, 14,500 dockers in his constituency would sign on the dole on Monday.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath, C) said that it was time for a new defence review.

Mr David Steel, Liberal Democrat spokesman on foreign affairs, said that the speed of change in Europe had taken them all aback.

"Authoritarian leaders can no longer dictate their own political longevity, not even, I suspect, in interviews in *The Times*."

Mr Martin O'Neill, chief Opposition spokesman on defence, said that there was no longer any possibility of a surprise attack from the East. Therefore, the Government should look at new and less provocative forms of deployment and equipment.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, said that Europe was going through a time of great hope but also of great danger. Britain would stand firm behind its defences but would not seek to obstruct encouraging developments that were taking place.

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Historical archive of state papers may be lost to Britain

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

Sotheby's has angered the heritage lobby by pushing ahead with the sale of the largest and most important collection of English state papers to be offered at auction this century, in spite of criticism that it would amount to an act of vandalism and pleas for a private treaty sale to the nation.

The Trumbull archive will come under the hammer on December 14, with an estimate of £2 million. It is being sold by the 9th Marquess of Downshire, who inherited the collection from his uncle in March this year.

The archive includes letters from James I, Charles I and II, Sir Francis Bacon, John Donne, Samuel Pepys, John Locke, Dryden and Pope, all giving insights into British history and literature.

There are 29 letters from Philip II of Spain, secret correspondence about the Council of Trent in the 1550s and 1560s and much on the British colonies in America before the American war of Independence.

Perhaps most exciting of all is the hitherto unrecorded series of papers belonging to William Trumbull's relative, the German poet Georg Rudolph Weckherlin, Charles I's secretary from 1625 until the Civil War. These include letters signed, but not sent, from Charles to Louis XIII, Gustavus Adolphus, Marie de Medici and others, as well as intercepted Royalist letters.

Finally, there is a beautiful calligraphic manuscript of a still-unpublished verse translation of Virgil's *Aeneid* book VI, which the poet Sir John Harington, Elizabeth I's "witty godson", prepared and presented to James I for the instruction of the young Prince Henry in 1604.

The archive once belonged to William Trumbull, British Resident in Brussels from 1609 to 1716, and his grand son Sir William Trumbull, ambassador at Paris and Constantinople.

There was a record sale for the English artist John William Waterhouse yesterday when his work "The Awakening of Adonis" fetched £308,000 at Christie's. The previous record was £218,000. The picture shows the hero being drawn back to life by the kiss of Venus. When first exhibited a critic said it "has infinite charm of sentiment and great beauty of colour". A painting by the French artist Jean-Leon Gerome of the entry of a bull into a bullring fetched £330,000.

Mr Brian Smith, secretary of the Royal Commission on Historic Manuscripts, said: "It is a great tragedy that the archive may be dispersed as a result of this sale. The importance of the archive depends on its being kept intact." He described Sotheby's plan to break up some of the volumes of letters as "an act of vandalism". However, as a sop to objectors, Sotheby's will open the auction by offering the archive as a single entity. However, cynics believe this move is guaranteed to fail, as the reserve will be high. The archive will then be dispersed as 63 separate lots.

"This method of sale has never been happened before," a senior spokesman from one of the heritage bodies said. "Usually, if something doesn't reach its reserve, it goes unsold, and negotiations for the nation to buy it can then start. There is no chance of this happening here. Once it's split, it is gone for ever."

The archive has been on loan to the Berkshire Records Office in Reading since 1954, but was withdrawn from there recently. The Berkshire archivist, Dr Peter Durrant, wrote to the trustees of the marquess suggesting a private treaty sale to a private institution, an arrangement that has tax advantages for inheritors.

Miss Susan Shaw, the deputy archivist, said: "They wrote back saying that he had decided to go to auction nevertheless. They gave no reasons." The marquess was yesterday unavailable for comment.

If the archive is split up, its components may be exported without any intervention by the export committee for works of art. That is because of the privileged status of 17 top antiquarian book dealers who are allowed to use their discretion regarding exports.

Tomatoes bask in power station warmth

ASADOUR GUZELIAN

Miss Tracey Stones packs tomatoes at Britain's only example of large-scale vegetable growing which is heated by water from a power station (Michael Hornsby writes). The produce is sold to many of the large supermarket chains. Some of the water used as a coolant by the Drax power station near Selby, North Yorkshire, which is Britain's largest, is diverted to heat 35 acres of glasshouses in which 3,000 tons of tomatoes are grown every year. "It is a way of utilizing the heat from the water which would otherwise simply be discharged into the atmosphere through cooling towers and wasted," said Mr John Collier, of National Power, the company due to emerge from the Central Electricity Generating Board. The scheme was begun in 1979 as a joint venture by the CEGB and Express Dairy, which in 1985 sold its interest to Glass Glover, a food-processing company.

Jails question mental policy

By Ronald Faux

Prison officers have added their voice to concern about mentally ill patients being discharged into the community without adequate support. They claim the policy has sharply increased the number of inmates with mental problems.

Mr Fred Wright, chairman of the Prison Officers' Association branch at Strangeways Prison, Manchester, said prisons were being obliged to accept confused and mentally disturbed people for whom the penal system was not designed.

He calculated that 25 per cent of the 1,500-plus inmates of Strangeways could be classed as mentally ill or deficient. The position was far worse in the £2 million hospital extension opened a year ago, with up to 70 per cent of patients there affected by mental illness.

Mr Wright believes that Strangeways may seem a safe harbour to someone alone, mentally insecure and discharged from an institution into an unsympathetic world. However, "we do not have the skills, the resources or the time to treat these unfortunates who get themselves into jail because they see it as an attractive, secure place to be."

Care workers in the North have brought attention to the cases of mentally disturbed people being repeatedly jailed for petty offences. A woman from Ellesmere Port is serving her fourth jail sentence since February for breaking windows. Her probation officer, Mr Richard Clarke, said there had to be a better solution, but the woman knew that if she smashed a window she would be arrested and given cigarettes, a hot meal and attention.

Mr Wright said the hospital wing at Strangeways was designed only for patients with physical conditions.

Mr Tom Graham, a hospital officer, said: "With the new staffing ratios, staffing limits and shifts, you can't afford to sit down and try to understand someone who has the misfortune to be tenpence to the shilling... we are not psychiatric nurses here."

Man in the news

MI5 watchdog role 'crucial'

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, who has been appointed the first MI5 commissioner to monitor warrants issued by the Home Secretary and to examine complaints against the security service, said yesterday his new job was crucial because he would be representing the public. At present it had "no insight into what is going on".

The senior Court of Appeal judge said he had had no previous experience of handling intelligence work but he looked forward to it because it was an important new role.

As commissioner, appointed by the Prime Minister under the 1989 Security Service Act, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said he would not be in a position to "pre-empt" any activities by MI5.

His role would be to check warrants after they had been authorized by the Home Secretary.

However, he said: "If I felt very uneasy about a course of conduct or an interpretation of the Security Service Act, I would raise the point.

"I would probably take it up with the director-general [of MI5]."

The judge, who lists his interests as playing the cello, shooting, building and playing bridge, said he anticipated forming a good working relationship with the present director-general (Mr Patrick Walker). The commissioner and the MI5 chief have already met. Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said: "There will have to be mutual trust on both sides."

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith: Important new role

The commissioner will also adjudicate on complaints by members of the public affected by authorized break-ins of private property.

Their grievances will first be heard by a three-man tribunal which will have to notify the results of its investigations to the commissioner.

He said his role would be similar in scope to that of Lord Justice Lloyd, who is the commissioner acting as watchdog on Government telephone tapping under the 1985 Interception of Communications Act.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, aged 62, is married with six children.

The judge who will have access under the Act to all files and members of the security service, has been appointed for an initial period of three years.

Tory group rejects 'open skies' policy

By Kerry Gill

The long-running debate over the future of Prestwick Airport will gather pace in Glasgow on Monday when a group of senior Conservatives launches the latest stage in the campaign to preserve the airport's transatlantic gateway status.

"Conservatives for Prestwick", led by Mr George Younger, the former Secretary of State for Defence, will give details of their arguments for retaining Prestwick's monopoly as part of the consultation process on Scottish Lowlands airport policy.

Sir Norman Payne, chairman of the BAA, is also expected to speak on Prestwick's future when he addresses Glasgow Chamber of Commerce on the same day.

Earlier this week, Sir Norman said that closure of Prestwick's passenger terminal was a likely option if the review allowed Glasgow and Edinburgh airports to handle direct flights to North America. Glasgow Chamber of Commerce supports an "open skies" policy allowing direct transatlantic services at the city's airport.

Sir Norman said that if the review opted for such a policy then the BAA, which runs Scotland's four main airports, would be forced to seriously consider the closure of Prestwick's passenger facilities.

Many businessmen in Central Scotland back the adoption of a free-for-all on North American flights. They claim that Prestwick, 28 miles from Glasgow, is remote and poorly served by transport links.

Mr Younger will point to Prestwick's continuing viability as Scotland's gateway airport on environmental and safety grounds. The group will also emphasize that the Government plans to vastly improve transport facilities between Prestwick, on the Ayrshire coast, and the Central belt.

The result of the Government's Scottish airports review is expected within the next two months.

Husband's £75,000 damages

A father who watched his wife and unborn child die after an alleged hospital mistake won £75,000 damages for their deaths in the High Court yesterday.

Stephen Rossiter, aged 33, a British Telecom worker, whose wife Teresa was in a coma for nine months before she died, had to give up his job to become mother and father to their other son, Roy, aged six, who is to get £7,500 from the total award for the loss of his mother.

Mr Rossiter suffered "severe shock" at the deaths in 1986. Mr Andrew Hogarth, his counsel, told Mr Justice Brooke, who approved the agreed award.

His wife, aged 36, had gone into Maidstone General Hospital for a Caesarean section in February, 1986. She was deprived of oxygen and lapsed into a coma. She was released into her husband's care at his home in Leybourne, Maidstone, Kent, in November, 1986, but never regained consciousness and died the following month.

Mr Hogarth said there was medical evidence "damning in the extreme" blaming three doctors, two anaesthetists and a registrar for the accident which put Mrs Rossiter in the coma. But the Maidstone Health Authority, responsible for the hospital, offered the damages in settlement of the negligence claim while denying liability.

Single European Market

Brittan condemns defeatism

The completion of the European Single Market offered great opportunities for Scotland if companies maintained the highest levels of quality, Sir Leon Brittan, vice-president of the European Commission, said yesterday (Kerry Gill writes).

He told the Institute of Directors in Perthshire that defeatist attitudes towards the risk of acquisitions and mergers were at odds with Scotland's tradition of outgoing commercial enterprise and should be resisted.

"The single market offers great opportunities. You have financial and educational institutions among the finest in Europe. You have dynamic people and companies. Now is the time to look forwards and outwards," he said.

Sir Leon, the commissioner responsible for European competition policy, said he believed Scottish business was well-placed to make the best of the single market.

"Productivity in the Scottish manufacturing sector has consistently out-performed the rest of the UK over the past 10 years and the financial and business services sector is thriving and expanding. "It is up to you to take advantage of the changed conditions."

Sir Leon said he was aware of concern in Scotland over the consequences of mergers, but these concerns were not entirely supported by market developments.

The country was witnessing the strengthening of the viability of small and medium sized enterprises. The number of companies registered in Scotland had increased by about 20,000 over the past decade, with a dramatic rise in the number of self-employed businessmen. The process of completing the internal market was gathering pace, he said. More than 98 per cent of the programme would have been drafted by the end of the year.

"One of the most beneficial aspects of the Single European Market is the widening of choice it will provide for all consumers. The entry of new firms, the opening of markets and the easing of trade will all add to the range of goods and services available to every customer in the community."

It followed, however, that firms would need to compete harder. They would need to innovate, monitor their costs, tend to the quality of their products and improve the skills of their employees.

"These, of course, are the strategies you have been pursuing and these are the ones that will continue to bring success."

Top police take legal cover

Hundreds of senior policemen ranging in rank from superintendents to chief constables are taking out private insurance cover against the rising risk of legal actions (Stewart Tendler writes).

Officers fear they are becoming increasingly vulnerable to civil actions by defendants which could cost them a great deal of money to defend or they could need expensive legal representation in disciplinary hearings. In one case, involving a chief superintendent in a northern force, legal fees in disciplinary hearings ran to more than £30,000 and there was no insurance cover.

So far there have been few claims on the policies but Chief Supt David Duckenfield, the South Yorkshire officer in charge of policing on the day of the Hillsborough disaster, has been provided with a legal team to cover both the criminal and civil law implications of his case. The Personal Law Plan costs about £10 a year and provides cover of up to £50,000 for legal expenses. The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) said it was negotiating to raise the ceiling to £100,000 in line with rising legal costs.

Ranks up to chief inspector are covered by the resources of the Police Federation with over 120,00 members, but neither the Police Superintendents' Association nor the ACPO has such resources.

Factory dies with its old working habits

By Craig Seton

More than 50 grades of payment existed for 200 workers at an old family firm that is being closed by its new owner because of a failure to reach agreement on new working practices.

The West Midlands firm of Ratcliffs is to close the week before Christmas — in its 200th anniversary year — with 190 shopfloor workers and more than 40 other staff being made redundant.

Workers at the copper strip factory at Great Bridge, Tipton, yesterday denied they preferred to see the company close rather than give up old working practices, including "the stint", whereby they had to produce a certain amount of work per shift and no more. Mr Michael Hearn, the chairman and chief executive, said yesterday that a substantial part of the workforce, many with long service, had signed a petition stating they were only prepared to accept the old company's conditions and did not want to compromise.

Mr Hearn, aged 61, said he was saddened by the closure. "I can only assume that these practices had been adopted over the years by Ratcliffs. When I came in that culture had to change to stop the losses."

The company's £25 million a year business would now go to competitors.

Mr Hearn said that when he took over he had found a "very complex and multi-detailed" payment system with over 50 different grades. He had tried to introduce a proper grading structure involving six grades.

Mr Frank Wardle, aged 57, who has been with the company for 30 years and was a shop steward until recently, said: "We realized we would have to give up some things. We were prepared to give up the stint system. We realized it had to go. He wanted to cut fringe benefits right away and every time we sat down to negotiate, his idea of negotiation was to say 'you are not having it'.

"We wanted the old terms and conditions to hold fast during the period of negotiation. No way did we want to see it close down. The old firm was fantastic. They looked after their workers."

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THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: GROWING SIGNS OF A POWER STRUGGLE IN INSECURE GOVERNMENT

Militia split threatens party's control

From John Holland
Prague

The ruling Communist Party has been increasingly relying on its paramilitary police, the civilian militia, to preserve worker support and the loyalty of the official media — very much a sign of how insecure it has become.

Now, however, the militia, a corps of more than 100,000 armed factory workers loyal to the party, is showing signs of a split between the Prague faction, led by Mr Miloslav Stepan, the local party leader, and the rest, who are loyal to Mr Milos Jakes, the national party leader.

Mr Stepan two days ago instructed the Prague unit to *come off the streets after* waging a battle of nerves with local workers and student strike organizers.

The paramilitary units of the party were founded in 1948, the year of the communist take-over, ostensibly to guard the factories from "anti-socialist" elements attempting to subvert the working class. But their role has expanded far beyond that. In 1969 elite units were used to intimidate and beat up demonstrators on the first anniversary of the Soviet-led invasion *of the country the previous* year.

In January this year they used similar tactics to break up a commemorative rally marking the 20th anniversary of the death of Jan Palach, who set himself on fire in Wenceslas Square to protest against the invasion.

Earlier this week the militia was *sent in bus loads to guard* important factories in Bohemia and Prague. According to strike organizers, several students were beaten by the militia as they tried to enter factories to talk to workers.

When Mr Ladislav Adamec, the Prime Minister, met opposition leaders earlier this week he assured them that the police and Army under the control of the Government would not again be used against citizens, as they were on November 17, or to enforce *martial law*.

That has proved, however, to be no assurance that the militia will not continue its historic role of intimidation if push comes to shove against the organizers of the strike this weekend.

Many pleas from opposition groups have been made to Mr Adamec's office to persuade the hotter heads in the party leadership that using the militia to keep control should not under any circumstances be an option.

Mr Jakes is thought to be demanding a stronger response than mere intimidation by the militia. General Milan Vaklavik, the Defence Minister, several nights ago on television assured the party of the support of the armed forces.

But a suspicious sign that a power struggle is underway became apparent with the claim yesterday that General Vaklavik had been rushed to hospital after taking an overdose of medicine.

Perhaps the biggest role yet to be played by the militia may result from an expected decision by state television employees yesterday whether or not to strike if continuous live coverage of mass rallies in Wenceslas Square is not guaranteed.

For the past two days the militia have patrolled hallways and occupied technical areas of the television headquarters, ready to shut down transmitters if hard-line leaders decide they do not like *what they hear or see*.

If there is a television strike, the employees say they believe the Army will not take over their jobs, leaving it to the militia to keep the service running at both the editorial and the technical level.

But with Mr Stefan now saying he wants a change in the direction of reforms, it is anyone's guess what, if anything, television will show today.

● **MOSCOW:** *Pravda* yesterday appeared to sympathize *with protesters in* Czechoslovakia, saying that they had lost faith in leaders who did not match words with deeds (Reuter reports).

Demonstrators were demanding "deeds, energetic steps to improve the situation in the country", the official party newspaper said.

Worried members of the Czech Central Committee preparing to tackle the growing crisis in the country at an extraordinary session which began yesterday.

Prague doctors protest over hospital for leadership

From Richard Bassett
Prague

In Prague's rundown fifth district, the region of smoking redbrick breweries and crumbling Victorian terraces, two hospitals tell a tale.

Halfway up a hill there stands, with shining white marble and brass balconies, the new Sanops Hospital.

Every room has a colour television set and immaculate linen. The hospital has the best surgeons and — most important of all for Prague patients — the best kitchen.

This establishment is a medical *tour de force*. Visiting technicians *proclaim that Sanops Hospital has* the finest facilities in Europe. One *English doctor recently stared in* disbelief at the radiotherapy rooms' advanced equipment. However, the hospital is for Communist Party members only.

Five hundred yards away is another hospital with a bunker-like appearance called the Motol, which was constructed by the Germans during the Second World War.

Passages are covered with damp and most of the walls have turned brown with age and erosion. A sea of cigarette ends blocks one of the ventilation shafts, while along one of the passages a room marked "*advanced cancer patients radio*therapy" is covered in soot and cobwebs.

Patients shuffling in ragged woollen dressing gowns attempt to keep themselves warm while they use a public telephone which is placed under a dripping ceiling exposed to draughts from three directions.

Motol, needless to say, is for ordinary Czechoslovaks — doctors, factory workers, teachers and pensioners. In fact, anyone who is not a party member.

The Prague patients in Motol bear this unfairness stoically. "It is not so bad here, the nurses are friendly," says an elderly lady suffering from *cancer, who shares her small ward* with 26 others. Some, however, are *more critical. "I cannot imagine* conditions to be as bad as this even in Romania," a woman taking her daughter for a check-up said angrily.

Keen not to be behind in the struggle to oust the Communists, the doctors of Motol have signed a petition demanding reform and an end to the abuse of privileges which mark the differences between party and non-party hospitals.

"We deal with 10 times as many patients as Sanops and yet we have no funds, fewer staff and must contend with these conditions," a young surgeon said, pointing to the *corner of the passage where the* remains of a cockroach were pre*served in the dust*.

"This hospital was built by the Nazis and has never been modernized. It is a disgrace to European standards of hygiene," another doctor said.

In the event of reform failing, the doctors know they will all be punished for signing the petition. Most of them are old enough to remember the 1968 invasion. "But what should we do?," a senior houseman asked.

"We can almost hear the satellite television blaring out pop music from the party hospital above. Such *inequality cannot go on.*"

WESTERN AID

EC examines help to Poland and Hungary

From Michael Binyon, Brussels

Quickening the pace of co-operation with Eastern Europe, the European Commission yesterday held another round of talks with Poland and Hungary on emergency aid.

In separate negotiations, the Commission also came closer to agreement with the Soviet Union on a wide-ranging trade and co-operation treaty.

Representing the Group of 24 donor countries to Poland and Hungary, the Commission *yesterday reviewed the* measures already taken in five areas: food aid, market access, training programmes, encouraging investment and environmental protection.

The Commission also announced that the first meeting at ministerial level of the 24 industrialized countries which pledged aid to Poland and Hungary at the Paris summit in the summer will be held here on December 13.

The Polish and Hungarian foreign ministers have been invited to attend and address *their benefactors*.

The European Community has now completed its proposals for access to the single market for Polish and Hungarian products.

Last month the foreign ministers of the European Community agreed to lift specific quantitative restrictions in the industrial sector at *the beginning of next year*, and to extend to the two countries the benefit of "generalized preferences".

The European Commission has now proposed three new measures. The first measure is the suspension of non-specific quantitative restrictions — those applied equally to other countries. This would be valid for a year, and would cover such products as cars, toys and shoes.

The second measure is to increase textile quotas — by 44 *per cent for Poland, and 16 per* cent for Hungary.

Finally, the Commission wants to remove other trade barriers which would, among other things, improve access to the single market for Polish steel products.

As the 24 nations met, Japan announced yesterday that it would contribute $150 million (£96 million) to the $1 billion Poland has requested from the West to stabilize its economy and currency.

Tokyo has come under pressure *from the US and other* Western countries to use some of the money from its huge trade surplus to do more to support political and economic reform in Eastern Europe.

Officials from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund also attended yesterday's meeting, the third since the aid programme began.

President Mitterrand of France declared last weekend that the European Commu*nity would intervene to get* IMF approval of a reform framework in the two countries by the end of the year. That is considered vital to the whole process now under way.

Other help that the 24 nations will offer will include an East European development bank, with a capital amount of 10 billions ecus (£6.6 billion); a separate EC-Poland bank using Western expertise to help Poland set up a modern banking system; and a zloty stabilization programme for Poland to restore *confidence in the currency*.

● **BUDAPEST:** Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, yesterday appealed for closer economic co-operation between East and Western Europe to achieve the greatest possible integration between all European states (Ernest Beck writes).

Speaking in Budapest after talks with Mr Gyula Horn, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, Herr Genscher said that the European Community now had "an historic responsibility" to reach out to Eastern Europe to support the process of political reform.

Herr Genscher said: "In this regard, there is no capitalist German nation or a socialist German nation but one united German nation."

He promised more economic aid for Hungary, in the *form of joint ventures and* debt rescheduling and praised Hungary for its pioneering role in political reform and its decision last summer to allow East German citizens free passage to the West.

He also urged the International Monetary Fund to show more understanding towards Hungary's economic problems. He said the meeting in December of the Group of 24 Foreign Ministers should take positive steps to grant economic aid to Eastern Europe.

HUNGARY: DEMOCRACY PUT TO THE TEST

Referendum met with apathy

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

Hungarians, in the first real test of their country's new era of freedom, are being urged to vote tomorrow on the crucial issue of whether their first President should be elected directly by the people or by the multi-party Parliament to be sworn in early next year.

Despite Hungary's first paid political advertising campaign and efforts by opposition parties to arouse interest in the referendum, apathy looks likely to rule the day and the required 50 per cent of eligible voters *will not turn out*.

The referendum, launched by the Radical Alliance of Free Democrats, would then automatically fail and a direct presidential election would be called for January 7.

Lack of interest stems in part from the country's pressing economic woes and a naturally pessimistic feeling *that no party or vote can bring* an end to hard times.

"What is in it for *me?*" asked one sceptical Hungarian, who said he was more worried by rising prices and rents and new restrictions on exchanging hard currency.

Voters have also been put off by the constant squabbling between supporters of the Free Democrats and the Socialist Party.

The Socialist Party is demanding a direct presidential election in order to ensure that Mr Imre Pozsgay, its own candidate, can preside over the transition to democracy.

The Socialists accuse the Free Democrats of wasting taxpayers' money by forcing the referendum, while the Free Democrats claim that the election office is manipulating opinion by changing the order of questions on ballot papers and adding explanations of what would happen if a "Yes" or "No" box was filled in.

The explanation of one question implies that Hungarians have a historic chance to choose the first leader of the new Hungarian republic because the Constitution lays down that all future Presidents will be elected by Parliament.

In addition, three other questions will be voted on — the abolition of the Workers' Militia, banning political activity from the workplace, and *forcing the communist party* to reveal its assets.

All three measures have been approved by Parliament, but the Free Democrats say they still want to have the people's approval. Many potential voters have yet to *see a ballot paper because, in* an effort to save money, these were not sent by post.

Instead, they were delivered by hand by volunteers who did not have access to all residences.

To confuse matters even further, the Democratic Forum, Hungary's largest opposition party, has called for a boycott of the election.

It is urging Parliament to dissolve itself and then call both presidential and general elections for March 11 to end the present political paralysis.

The Free Democrats have been joined by the conservative Smallholders' Party in an unlikely alliance, although both believe that a freely elected multi-party Parliament must be the basis of a democratic state.

Geneva — The council of the Socialist International gave a warning yesterday of the risk of nationalist and reactionary forces in Eastern Europe "rushing in to fill the vacuum caused by the collapse of communist ideology" (Alan McGregor writes).

In a statement it said **prosperous Western European countries must promote economic development in Eastern and Central Europe.**

Scandals spill out from a freed press

From Our Correspondent, Budapest

The dawn of democracy in Hungary has not only brought the promise of free elections and a multi-party system, but also the birth of an aggressive free press which, unlike the old days, does not shy away from taboo topics such as corruption and exposing the privileges of power enjoyed by the former communist regime.

In the past few weeks Hungarians have been fed a daily diet of scandals in the once sacrosanct corridors of power which have revealed a system of perks, bribery and pay-offs among the party élite who controlled every aspect of *national life, including* the Government and the media.

The most embarrassing revelations involve Mr Lajos Czinege, the former Defence Minister who was a confidant of the past leader, Mr Janos Kadar.

Although Mr Czinege had no prior military experience, he was made general and rewarded his friends with top posts, sending them on holidays in the West with army funds and recruiting soldiers to build luxury residences.

He even had a private hunting reserve created for his own use, complete with a guest house which Mr Rezso Nyers, the modest president of the Socialist Party, once refused to enter after seeing its luxurious appointments.

Colonel Imre Bokor, the man who exposed the excesses along with military incompetence in a best selling booked called *Small Kings in Uniform*, was sacked from his job as professor of military science at the Hungarian Military Academy. Mr Ferenc Karpati, the Defence Minister, admitted this week that much of what is written in the book is true, and Mr Czinege, feeling the heat, resigned his rank of general and said he would soon move out of his state-owned villa, which comes complete with swimming pool for a nominal rent.

The new Socialist Party, formerly the Communist Party, is also under attack for trying to salt away its vast assets in a private, limited holding company called "Next 2000" to avoid handing them over to the Government.

After extensive media exposure, the party announced yesterday it would dissolve the company and give back several resorts and hotels for what it called "social use". A communiqué said the party wanted to "eliminate ventures which could be legally and morally criticized", but opposition parties say the Next 2000 properties are just the tip of the iceberg of party holdings.

Similar tales of abuse of power are unfolding at Hungarian State Television. One of the network's directors has come under suspicion of embezzling funds and handing out exorbitant gifts to herself and party bosses, including televisions to among others Mr Karoly Grosz, the former General Secretary of the Communist Party. Others were allegedly allowed to borrow state television's secret cache of pornographic videos.

Although many of the accused have denied any wrongdoing, several newspapers are enjoying the witch hunt and seem to have no qualms about *printing any allegation* without allowing an immediate right of reply.

After 40 years of censorship and suffocating control, and with the first free elections approaching, the Hungarian media are making up for lost time.

ROMANIA: CEAUSESCU THE MASTER

Cocooned from winds of change

By Dennis Deletant

President Ceausescu, defiantly resisting the tide of change in Eastern Europe, was yesterday re-elected President of Romania for a further five years.

His predictable triumph was greeted with the orchestrated adulation which has been on show at the five-day Communist Party congress *which closed yesterday*. He remains undisputed master of Romania.

He will continue to dominate his country because the conditions for change in the rest of Eastern Europe — namely encouragement above from President Gorbachov and pressure below from the local population — do not *apply in Romania's case*.

Mr Ceausescu successfully insulated himself from Soviet influence by demoting Soviet-trained personnel in the party in the mid-1970s and by appointing members of his family, most notably his wife, to key positions in the party and the Government. At the same time he has repressed any collective demands for reform with the most efficient security police in Eastern Europe.

That President Ceausescu should reaffirm his commitment *to the leading role of the* Communist Party and to his golden vision of an egalitarian, monolithic society should come as no surprise. In professing this ideology since becoming party leader in *1965* he has shown consistency and single-mindedness.

Where there has been a change is in the West's appreciation of Mr Ceausescu. Western policy towards Romania in the pre-Gorbachov period was based on Mr Ceausescu's usefulness as a thorn in the Soviet Union's flank and, as such, on efforts to give him international stature. Hence his state visits in the 1970s to Britain, France and the United States.

With the rise of Mr Gorbachov, Mr Ceausescu lost this attraction and his Stalinist internatal policies were left exposed. Concern with human rights abuses in Romania and with the systematization plan, an experiment in social engineering initially *undertaken in 1972, only* became an issue in the West after 1985.

By frequently changing ministers and officials at higher levels, he achieved the dual purpose of preventing any potential rival from establishing a power base, and of making any new appointees dependent on his own goodwill. He has been abetted in tightening his hold on the country by the absence of any organized opposition which has been a feature not only of his rule, but of post-war Romania.

At the time of the imposition by Stalin of communist rule in Romania on the back of the Red Army, Romania was a predominantly agricultural country with little industry and con*sequently only a small work*ing class. Organized labour did not represent a significant force in Romanian politics and there were no traditional links between the intellectuals *and industrial* workers.

This remains the case today. The Romanian Communist Party has always been monolithic and has displayed little evidence of internal debate.

The direction of the Orthodox Church, to which the great majority of Romanians look for spiritual guidance, has been subordinated to the in*terests of the Communist* Party and its leaders were among the 3,000 delegates in the congress hall on Monday who gave worship to the Party Secretary. The Army under the President has been stripped of its status as an élite and its generals relegated to the role of factory managers in *an effort to prevent sabotage* and to ensure that production targets are met.

Resistance to the regime is represented by a handful of courageous dissident teachers and writers such as Doina Cornea in Cluj, Dan Petrescu in Iasi and Mircea Dinescu in Bucharest.

But their geographical isola*tion in the three provinces of* the country demonstrates how simple a task the authorities have in containing dissent. Since the Brasov workers' riot in November 1987, the only serious threat to Mr Ceausescu in his 24-year rule, there have been no big public demonstrations against him.

Unless there is an explosion of opposition from the population, change can only come to Romania from within party ranks. Until such a figure, or figures, identify themselves, Mr Gorbachov's *scope for action is limited*. The Soviet leader has also the Romanians in the Moldavian republic, formerly Bessarabia, to consider.

He will not wish to antagonize them by intervening in Romania's affairs.

Mr Ceausescu, in his turn, reopened in his speech the sensitive issue of the former Romanian territories, including Bessarabia, annexed by Moscow in June 1940 under the Stalin-Hitler pact of 1939. His call for "all treaties with Hitler's Germany to be annulled and concrete steps taken to reverse the consequences of those treaties" is designed both to reinforce his credentials as a defender of Romania's national interest, thereby deflecting any potential criticism of his own internal policies, and to raise the stakes in the ideological conflict between the Kremlin and Bucharest.

The author is Senior Lecturer in Romanian Studies, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London.

President Ceausescu addressing the party congress after *being re-elected as leader for a further five-year term.*

هكذا في الاصل

THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

EAST GERMANY: COMMUNISTS FAVOUR CHANGING CONSTITUTION

Krenz pledge to scrap the party's power monopoly

From Anne McElvoy, East Berlin

Herr Egon Krenz, the East German leader, said yesterday the clause in the Constitution which guarantees the communist party's hold on power would be scrapped.

He told the party daily, *Neues Deutschland*, that the Constitution, whose first article has vested power in "the working class and its Marxist-Leninist party", was in need of a thorough overhaul, and he added: "From our point of view, there is no need for debate on the matter; we are in favour of striking out this clause."

He said political parties could not hope to keep pace *with developments in society* "through laws or declarations" but only through their work and performance in tackling national problems.

Herr Krenz's comments are a clear response to growing demands from rank-and-file party members at demonstrations in East Berlin, Leipzig and Dresden in the last week. Many members have made it clear to the leadership that they would give up their membership at the December party conference if the party's leading role was not renounced voluntarily.

It is estimated that 100,000 party members have handed in their cards this year. Herr Krenz said many had done so because they were "embittered at being lied to by the leadership for so many years".

Herr Krenz admitted that East Germany's reform programme was belated. "We know how hard life's punishments are for those who ignore its demands," he said, emphasizing his closeness to President Gorbachov's thinking.

The number of party workers had been substantially reduced, he admitted, but he promised that the leadership would support those members now subject to threats and accusations in their communities because of the party's failings. But he did not mention the investigations launched on Thursday into the record of the former party leader, Herr Erich Honecker.

The withdrawal of the party membership of Herr Günter Mittag, the hardline former Politburo member, is seen as a sign that the party is prepared to exact vengeance for the mistakes of the past. Herr Mittag worked closely with Herr Honecker as his chief economic adviser.

Similar investigations have also begun against the former First Secretary of the Suhl region, Herr Hans Albrecht, and three other members of the Central Committee.

At the same time it was announced that the publisher, Herr Walter Janka, who was imprisoned and ejected from the party in 1957 for his comments on the repression of the Hungarian uprising has been officially rehabilitated.

● BONN: There is now a real possibility of establishing links between the Bundeswehr and the National People's Army in East Germany, Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German Defence Minister, said here yesterday (Ian Murray writes).

He told a press conference that after promised reforms of the East German Army he could foresee co-operation and exchanges.

Herr Stoltenberg said he believed that it would be possible to reach similar arrangements with other Warsaw Pact countries.

He also favoured a general relaxation of Nato controls which currently make it impossible for Bundeswehr soldiers to travel in the Eastern bloc.

East Berlin (Reuter) — The official who ran the entire finances of East German sport has been found dead and suicide is not ruled out, a spokesman for the DTSB sports federation said yesterday. He said Franz Rydz, aged 62, was found dead at Kienbaum, a sports school east of Berlin, on Tuesday.

Mothers' mercy plea to Mujahidin

Soviet mothers, from left, Mrs Emilia Zhukova, Mrs Ada Semenova, and Mrs Anna Gorvunova, holding up photographs of their sons who are being held by *Afghan Mujahidin*. The three women had just arrived in Islamabad, Pakistan, yesterday, hoping to win their sons' freedom. Two other mothers in the party have been told their sons will be freed soon. Privates Andrei Lopukh and Valery Prokapchuk, both aged 20, will be the first Soviet PoWs released since the Soviet withdrawal in February. The Russians say both were captured in 1987, but the rebels claim Lopukh deserted.

Press unmasks party privilege

From Our Own Correspondent, East Berlin

The East German communist party daily, *Neues Deutschland*, is clearly enjoying a new lease of life freed from the restrictions imposed for 40 years by successive ministers for ideology and propaganda.

During its first week under new editorship, the newspaper has been transformed from a "court list" of party functionaries into a critical and sometimes aggressive organ *unmasking privilege within* party ranks.

Its exclusive yesterday under the headline "Whose interests did Harry Tisch represent?" clearly owed more to the West German *Bild*-style of *unmasking scandals than* the recommendations of the Politburo.

The paper revealed that the former union chief has a luxury hunting hideaway on the Baltic coast where six forestry workers were employed to keep his forest in shape for hunting all year round.

The 2,000-hectare estate was legally common land appropriated by Herr Tisch for his own use. All the rooms were furnished with handcrafted oak. The paper reported that there were colour television sets in every room, as well as "baths and showers and a sauna with a solarium".

Herr Tisch appears to have had an obsession with cleanliness and even his double garage had a shower, presumably to wash the gleaming new Lada which still stands there.

Herr Tisch said yesterday that his privileges had not been excessive. "They were simply those which came with my position," he said, "My first priority was always the interests of the workers, always."

Hundreds of East Germans now roll up daily to inspect the estate. It is intended to develop the area for international tourism.

But it is not yet clear what is to become of the private hunting estate of Herr Erich Honecker, the deposed East German leader. Even the *Neues Deutschland* news hounds have not managed to slip past the guards still there.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Indian opposition expect close vote

Delhi — Shots were fired last night towards Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, India's main opposition leader, as he stood complaining to election officials about alleged voting fraud in his constituency of Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh (Christopher Thomas writes). Sources in his Janata Dal party confirmed the apparent attack. Nobody was hurt. It was one of countless numbers of violent incidents reported across the country in the second day of voting.

Opposition leaders have started working out their crucial post-poll strategy, based on the assumption of a hung parliament, the first ever, which would throw up a maze of of possibilities. They believe that MPs from the governing Congress (I) Party might be willing to join ranks with the National Front, a loose opposition coalition of Janata Dal and four other opposition parties, if the result is indecisive.

First woman bishop

Wellington — The Anglican Church in New Zealand is to name its first woman bishop this weekend, which it says will also be a world first for Anglicans apart from an Episcopalian woman appointed an assistant bishop in the United States last year (Richard Long writes). The Rev Penelope Jamieson, aged 47, vicar of the Wellington parish of Makara and Karori West, is to be named Bishop of Dunedin, a bishopric based on the country's fourth largest city. She is regarded as an expert in education as well as church practice, and is married to a university lecturer.

Boost for Cambodia

The European Parliament has voted to recognize the *de facto* Government in Cambodia and to back efforts to withdraw recognition from the Khmer Rouge delegation representing the country in the UN (Our Foreign Staff writes). The vote came after a bitter debate during which MEPs said that to continue recognizing members of the Khmer Rouge was like "agreeing that Hitler should sit in the UN". The Australian Government yesterday announced it was withdrawing support for a transitional government of Cambodia's exiled leaders which embraces Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge.

Muslim students ban

Paris — Eighteen children from French Muslim families were banned from attending school in Noyon, north of Paris, yesterday after their parents complained that music classes were the work of the devil and that biology lessons were indecent (Philip Jacobson writes). With the country's highest administrative body, the Council of State, due to announce its decision next Monday on the highly sensitive issue of Muslim girls wearing veils to school, this new clash seems certain to exacerbate an increasingly acrimonious debate on the status of Islam in French education.

US trial near collapse

Washington — A key trial in the Iran-Contra affair is close to collapse following a US District judge's decision yesterday that documents which the Government wants to keep secret on national security grounds are essential to the defence case (Peter Stothard writes). The trial of Joseph Fernandez, former CIA chief in Costa Rica, would reportedly have revealed the extent of official CIA complicity in the affair.

An entertaining sports writer? It just isn't cricket.

Stan Hey applies his brains to any brawn you care to mention, for example, surfing. "Surely surfing is the preserve of burnt out renegades from the sixties, with incipient melanomas and a 'space to let' sign showing in their eyes?". Read his approach to sport from a recumbent position and he'll have you sitting up and laughing. On the more cerebral side, Howard Jacobson will be taking another stab at television with a rapier sharp wit that is often more entertaining than the programmes he reviews. Add to this Clive Anderson's incomparable thoughts on this and that and even the thought of an impending Monday won't be able to depress you.

THE SUNDAY CORRESPONDENT

TOMORROW'S SUNDAY

Crisis in El Salvador

Extreme right puts rattled Cristiani under new pressure

From Tom Gibb, San Salvador

The image of the man in control that President Cristiani was trying to present to the world press was not helped by the outbreak of explosions in the background. "The guerrilla offensive has been a failure. The Army controls both the capital and San Miguel," he said, referring to the country's third largest city.

However, after the first explosion Señor Cristiani flinched, knocking over his chair. Colonel René Emilio Ponce, the armed forces' Chief of Staff, got up to see what was happening as a ripple of alarm went through the assembled press corps. The press conference was being held in an open-air auditorium of the officers' club inside the High Command.

Air force planes and helicopters then came in to bomb and strafe the edge of the San Salvador volcano, less than a mile away. Señor Cristiani was all but drowned out by the din of heavy explosions and screaming A37 aircraft.

Colonel Ponce said the artillery and Air Force were hitting rebel positions on the volcano. Major Chávez Cáceres, a surprised armed forces' spokesman, suggested that the rebels were setting off bombs in order to disrupt the press conference.

In the two weeks since the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) launched its largest offensive of the 10-year civil war, President Cristiani's carefully constructed image of moderation and efficiency has been shattered. "To what extent is Cristiani a political cripple, and if so does his wheelchair run?," asked one diplomat.

President Cristiani is coming under increasing pressure from his own far right constituency, who regard the North American strategy designed for the military as too soft. A state of siege with a dusk-to-dawn curfew is still in effect.

The National Assembly, dominated by the President's right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), passed

President Cristiani: Almost drowned out by din of battle.

in principle draconian new anti-terrorist laws on Thursday which critics complain will totally curtail civil liberty. The laws provide stiff prison sentences for civilians who provide any help to the guerrillas or anyone giving statements which could endanger "public security".

On Wednesday night the main independent television news programmes closed down, complaining that it was pointless to continue broadcasting under the present conditions.

Meanwhile, the murder last week of six Jesuit priests, including the country's leading left-wing intellectual, is being widely blamed on a right-wing death squad working with protection from elements of the military. Priests and church workers have been arrested, beaten and harassed and some have disappeared. Several priests have left the country after receiving death threats.

The right wing inside the military, led by General Ramón Bustillo, the Air Force chief, is certain to have been strengthened by the fighting.

There is some evidence that Air Force pilots have dropped bombs in the city, despite orders to the contrary. President Cristiani denies there has been any indiscriminate air bombardment, saying only 427 civilians have been wounded.

But in one San Salvador hospital alone, health workers say they treated 677 civilians at the beginning of this week.

Although the rebels have withdrawn from the capital, leading to several days of relative calm, they do not appear to be defeated. Military sources say they have detected large numbers of guerrillas south of San Salvador massing for fresh attacks.

"Despite all the bluster of the Government and the Army, the FMLN are still fighting on their own turf. They are the ones who are deciding what happens," said one diplomat.

Fonteyn's Panama farewell

Dame Margot Fonteyn, accompanied by Señorita Querabe Arias, one of her stepchildren, leaving a Panama City church after the funeral of her husband, Roberto Arias. Señor Arias, a Panamanian politician who was accused of trying to overthrow his country's government in 1955, a year after marrying Dame Margot, died in Panama on Wednesday, aged 72 (James Bone writes). Señor Arias, a former ambassador to Britain, had been confined to a wheelchair since being shot in a political dispute in 1964. Obituary, page 12

Village shocked by arrest of a charming killer

From Susan MacDonald, Compiègne, northern France

The photograph of Fiona Jones, the young British teacher who disappeared while on holiday here in August, stared out from the front pages of all the local Oise newspapers yesterday. Beside it, next to the headline "A murderer, but no body", was the picture of Frédéric Blancke, the 22-year-old local man who has just confessed to killing her.

The townspeople in Compiègne, where he lives, and the villagers in Barboeuf near by, where he was born, were in a state of shock yesterday.

According to neighbours and to those who worked with him in the radiography unit of the local private clinic, M Blancke in no way gave the impression of someone capable of committing murder.

He is described over and over again as a serious young man, hard working and good at sport. "Tall, good looking and elegant," said one. "Such a charming man," said another. His parents own a grocer's shop in Barboeuf and are well thought of in the village.

M Blancke was a model of good behaviour at the village school. He passed his school leaving examination and then studied radiology. He is best known as an excellent basketball player on the local team.

Since the police arrested him at his home on Tuesday evening, he has talked in macabre detail about the hot summer day of August 14 when, driving along the country road from Compiègne to Elincourt-Sainte-Marguérite, he saw 26-year-old Fiona Jones cycling back towards the Château Bellinglise Hotel, where she and her husband, Mark, were staying for a few days. They had arrived the evening before from their home in Kingsbury, Warwickshire, for a few days in the luxury hotel, 45 miles north of Paris, to celebrate their first wedding anniversary.

As on the Monday morning, Mark Jones was engaged in talks with the hotel about building a golf course in the grounds, so Fiona decided to hire a bicycle and explore the local countryside as far as the nearest town, Compiègne.

Frédéric Blancke's account of his actions to the police, however, does not go as far as describing where he put Mrs Jones's body. The police have searched the heavily wooded area countless times since August without success and now hope that continuing interrogation will break him down.

Officially, the Compiègne Gendarmerie, who have conducted the three-month investigation which led to his being charged with murder on Thursday, are simply stating that they are in possession of evidence they are not prepared to reveal. But it would appear that the description of his actions which appeared in the local *Le Courrier Picard* newspaper yesterday resembled evidence given to the police.

According to *Le Courrier Picard*, he had been driving along in the early afternoon of August 14, after a fight with his girl friend, and seized Fiona Jones. The newspaper says that he approached her on a small deserted track off the road, grabbed her and tried to rape her but she resisted. He managed to knock her unconscious and, leaving her on the ground, drove back home, fetched a knife and returned to stab her over and over again.

Hearing a tractor in the adjoining field, he panicked, put her body and the bicycle in the boot of his car and drove off at full speed. Police found the hired bicycle on Wednesday in a canal farther along the road into Compiègne.

Mr Mark Jones arrived in Compiègne to be officially informed of developments by the examining magistrate in charge of the inquiry, Madame Isabel Pagenelle.

Since the moment of his wife's disappearance Mr Jones and members of the family, who have been taking it in turns to be with him, have worked closely with the Compiègne police.

Thanks to the three months when no information filtered through, the police were able to use the evidence of a man's shoe found at the scene of the crime and the testimony of two witnesses who stated that they had seen a white Volkswagen Golf speeding away from the track, to mount a painstaking search to link the shoe to the car and the car to the suspected killer.

M Blancke was undoubtedly questioned by police early on in the search, as were no fewer than 1,000 other owners of white Golf cars in the area. But it was only last Monday that the police felt they had sufficient evidence to place his foot in the shoe they had found after tracing the shop that sold him the two-tone loafers.

Syrians on alert as Lebanon's MPs line up against Aoun

From Juan Carlos Gumucio
Chtaura, Lebanon

Whoever is elected President of Lebanon at an emergency session of the country's Parliament at a modest hotel in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley, his first act will be to urge his fellow Christian Maronites to rebel against General Michel Aoun, the Christian commander of the Lebanese Army, rather than make a formal request for Syrian military help to oust him.

That was the strong impression to emerge last night from intense political contacts between Christian and Muslim deputies inside the Park Hotel of Chtaura, a modest four-storey building halfway between Beirut and Damascus which yesterday became, once again, an awkward symbol of Lebanese democracy. The swearing-in of President Sarkis was done in the hotel's lobby in 1976 while fierce fighting in Beirut prevented deputies from reaching Parliament in the old quarter of the capital.

Although there has been no violence since the murder of President Muawad on Wednesday, the deputies are too frightened to meet in west Beirut. General Aoun's artillery could hit Chtaura and the huge explosion that killed President Muawad and 23 other people has demonstrated that not even the huge Syrian Army presence can prevent attacks on the head of state.

This explained the presence of hundreds of Syrian soldiers and *mukhabarat* (army intelligence) agents who sealed off the Park Hotel and diverted traffic from the Beirut-Damascus road. Forty-three deputies spent the day inside their rooms or in the halls of the hotel, waiting for the arrival of six other MPs who were flown from Paris to vote for a President for the second time in 20 days. The Lebanese Parliament needs a quorum of 48.

The time of the vote was unclear last night despite efforts by Mr Hussein Husseini, the Shia Muslim Speaker of Parliament, to elect a new President before Mr Muawad's funeral at noon today.

Syria, meanwhile, stepped up its accusations against General Aoun and vowed swift retaliation. Lieutenant-General Mustapha Tlass, the Syrian Defence Minister, who commands the estimated 40,000 Syrian soldiers in Lebanon, said in Aleppo: "We shall cut off the hand which has assassinated Lebanese legitimacy ... And very soon."

In fact, the chances of direct Syrian intervention against General Aoun appear remote. But at one point yesterday the issue was at the heart of debate among the MPs. Mr Pierre Helou, a moderate Maronite deputy who seems to be a front-runner to succeed Mr Muawad, was credited with blocking direct Syrian military intervention to expel General Aoun.

Medellín godfather on the run

From Geoffrey Matthews
Bogotá

Pablo Escobar Gaviria, *padrino* (godfather) of the cocaine cartel in Medellin, Colombia's second city, was yesterday on the run in the Magdalena Medio region of the country after narrowly escaping capture by the security forces.

Colombia's most wanted man fled into the jungle on Thursday dressed only in trousers when the co-ordinated forces of the Army, the police and the Air Force staged a sudden raid on a hacienda, one of his many hideouts in the vast, sparsely populated region.

It was Escobar's narrowest escape from capture since President Barco's Government put a reward of 100 million pesos (approximately £160,000) on his head three months ago after he and other drug barons declared "total war" on the state.

The dawn raid took Escobar and his small army of bodyguards wholly by surprise. As the security forces disembarked from helicopters, Escobar fled with eight of his men, leaving behind clothes containing personal documents.

Before fleeing, he ordered his forces to engage the troops. Two of his men were killed in the subsequent fighting, and 55 were captured. Two young women were among those detained.

Botswana holds Pretoria death squad suspect

From Gavin Bell
Johannesburg

An alleged member of a South African police death squad has been arrested in Botswana and charged with attempted murder in connection with a shooting incident in which a Botswana citizen was injured.

The deputy chief of Botswana's CID said Mr Nalile Charles Mabu, a South African citizen, was arrested last July and would appear in the Gaberone High Court soon. He said Mr Mabu was known to the police, having been convicted of unlawful possession of arms several years ago, sentenced to five years' imprisonment and deported from Botswana.

Mr Mabu was back in the country at the time of the shooting incident last June, but left shortly afterwards. He was arrested a day after returning to Botswana, allegedly to continue his activities as a "South African agent".

Meanwhile, Major Eugene de Kock has been called as a witness in one inquest, and is due to be summoned by another, into the deaths of ANC suspects in clashes with anti-terrorist units. In both cases, in which Major de Kock is named as the field commander, lawyers have alleged the police set out to kill, rather than capture, the victims.

The first involved a police ambush at Piet Retief, on the border with Swaziland, in June last year. Major de Kock has testified that he had received information that armed guerrillas were due to cross the border, and he intended to arrest them. He arranged for a former ANC trainee, now a police lieutenant, to pose as an ANC "contact" and meet the suspects on the South African side.

Johannesburg — Barend Strydom, a white extremist who laughed as he killed eight blacks and wounded 16 in a shooting spree in Pretoria, was married on Death Row in the city's central prison here yesterday (Gavin Bell writes). Strydom, aged 24, a former policeman, married Karen Rautenbach, aged 22.

Major de Kock said as they drove into the ambush, one of the men shot at him. The police returned fire, killing all four occupants in the car.

In the second inquest, police have said they infiltrated a group of youths in Chesterville, a suburb of Durban, in 1986 with the intention of arresting them. Believing they heard a shot fired at them, the police fired about 90 bullets, killing four youths and wounding two.

A more damning indictment has been levelled at Major de Kock in affadavits by Butane Nofomela, a former security policeman facing the death penalty for the unrelated murder of a farmer. Nofomela has said that he, two other black policemen, and Major de Kock interrogated Mr Japie Moponye, a security guard, in 1985 to gain information about his brother who was a known guerrilla.

According to Nofomela, Major de Kock dismissed the other two policemen after failing to extract any information. When Nofomela said he was afraid Mr Moponye might recognise him in future, Major de Kock is alleged to have shot the man in the head. Lawyers who have submitted Nofomela's affidavits to the authorities believe corroboration exists for his allegations.

Yesterday *Vrye Weekblad*, a liberal Afrikaans weekly, said that relatives of Griffiths Mxenge, a civil rights lawyer, planned to bring a private prosecution against Major de Kock and two other senior officers in connection with Mxenge's murder in Durban in 1981.

Another former security policeman has claimed police were responsible for sending a T-shirt sprinkled with poison to Donald Woods, the editor, in 1978. The incident featured in the film *Cry Freedom*.

As pressure mounted on the Government to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry, Mr Adriaan Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order, accused the ANC and the South African Communist Party of trying to destroy the morale of the police.

Mr Vlok said: "They must get the police and the security forces out of their way to make it easier to bring about their aim of creating a communist state."

Japanese move in on Paris

Paris (Reuter) — Japanese investors are expected to take a big stake in the Forum des Halles shopping centre, a thriving complex which is as much a part of the Paris landscape as New York's Rockefeller Center, also recently bought by the Japanese.

France's Credit Lyonnais bank is reported to be about to clinch a deal to sell nearly a third of the shopping centre to Nippon Life Insurance for £43.5 million, but a company spokesman in Tokyo declined to comment.

8 beheaded

Dammam, Saudi Arabia (Reuter) — Saudi Arabia yesterday beheaded eight people, including a Yemeni and a Filipino. An official statement said seven, including the Yemeni, were members of a gang and were executed for raping and robbing women.

Burundi move

Bujumbura (Reuter) — The small central African state of Burundi has announced a devaluation of its currency by 9 per cent to help deal with an economic crisis caused by falling revenues from coffee, its main export.

Mafia killings

Palermo (AFP) — Three women from one of Palermo's big Mafia clans were murdered in an apparent revenge killing after their family switched allegiances in Sicily's organized crime world.

Port paralysed

Brussels (Reuter) — Shipping in Antwerp, one of the busiest ports in Europe, was paralysed by a one-day strike of public-sector workers in northern Belgium.

Drugs raid

Amsterdam (Reuter) — Dutch police have raided a large drugs laboratory in The Netherlands, seizing 4.7 gallons of amphetamine oil and arresting four people.

Model parade

Hong Kong (AFP) — China is to hold a pageant of the country's top models next month in a bid to promote national and international cultural exchanges in fashion.

Red Square hero behind bars again after stabbing nurse

From Ian Murray
Bonn

Herr Mathias Rust, who spent 14 months in the Lefortovo Prison, Moscow, after a daredevil flight to Red Square in a light aircraft, is back behind bars.

Last time he was jailed, he won hero status and worldwide admiration for what he called his "peace mission to the Kremlin". This time he is accused, as a common criminal, of twice stabbing a blonde student nurse because she refused to kiss him.

Dr Heidrun Braner, Herr Rust's psychiatrist, says that he must now be locked away in an asylum.

Since he landed his tiny single-engined Cessna in Red Square on May 28, 1987, and parked it in the shadow of the Kremlin, psychologists have regularly been studying his character. He was only 18 then, with a reputation as a quiet mother's boy and the spectacular flight seemed out of keeping with his reserved nature.

He had been inspired to make the 500-mile flight from Helsinki, he said, by the failure of the Reykjavik superpower summit to achieve progress towards peace.

He failed in his mission to see President Gorbachov, but his trouble-free flight through one of the most heavily defended air corridors in the world shook the Soviet military establishment and gave the Soviet leader the excuse he was looking for to dismiss General Sergei Sokolov, the Defence Minister, and General Alexander Koldunov, the Air Defence chief.

After what seemed no more than a carefree escapade, the sentence of four years' hard labour seemed out of all proportion to the offence, being imposed as simple retribution for Soviet embarrassment.

When, after a salutary 14 months, he was eventually released in a gesture which Mr Gorbachov hoped would improve the Soviet image with West German public opinion, he appeared chastened.

Instead of compulsory military service he chose to do social work for DMfs1770 (£275) a month, washing and caring for geriatric patients in the Red Cross hospital at Rissen in Hamburg — a post which meant he could live at home. Although he tried to be friendly, he appears to have become more and more regarded as a loner and to be subject to nervous stomach aches and asthma. He wanted a girl friend, but girls just did not seem interested in him.

Then he met the 18-year-old student nurse and she seems to have agreed to meet him after he finished his early shift on Thursday.

They went into a cloakroom at the hospital and he locked the door and tried to kiss her. She pushed him away and he then took a knife and stabbed her viciously twice.

Herr Rust during his 1987 trial in Moscow.

Kinnock rides Métro in search of commuter solutions

From Philip Jacobson
Paris

Parisians never really come to life before the first cup of strong black coffee, so the presence of the leader of her Majesty's loyal opposition in a packed *Métro* carriage during yesterday morning's early rush hour passed largely unremarked.

Even when a television crew started filming Mr Neil Kinnock, the man standing on my foot barely glanced up from *Le Figaro*, though a couple of the students who piled off at Cluny La Sorbonne station did identify him tentatively as leader of Britain's *parti travailliste*.

The expedition had started with Mr Kinnock becoming slightly entangled in one of the station's automatic entry doors, causing the sort of momentary delay that drives the average Parisian commuter into instant fury.

At such moments, other people's umbrellas and attaché cases become offensive weapons, especially if the culprit is a foreigner.

Never mind, Mr Kinnock was there to see, not to be seen: guest of the Régie Autonome des Transports Parisiens (RATP) which runs the capital's bus, *Métro* and rapid electric train network with an overall purpose and efficiency that impresses — perhaps depresses would be better — travel-stained veterans of the equivalent services in London. Put another way, Parisians enjoy access to an integrated public transport system that is, for the most part, cheap, clean, safe and speedy. Naturally, that does not prevent them from grumbling, often about things like the occasional unswept carriage floor.

Two number 38 buses which Mr Kinnock's escort of RATP officials wanted us to board during rush hour arrived more than somewhat crowded. "*Quelle pagaille!*" exclaimed one woman indignantly as she struggled off to find a television camera conveniently at hand — "What a shambles!"

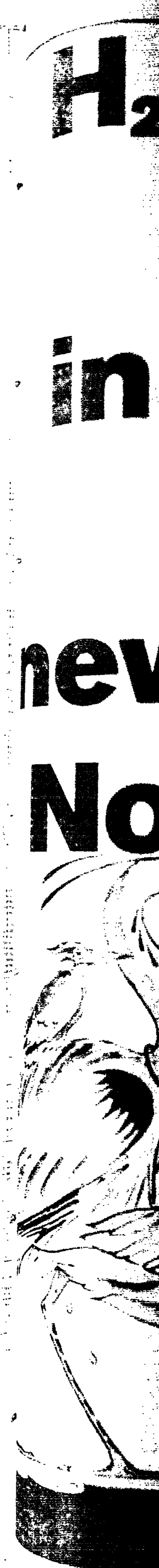
With the bus trip shelved in the interest of passenger relations, the whole party descended into the nearest RER station, where Mr Kinnock was ushered into the driver's cab of one the splendid high-speed trains that link the city to its suburbs.

In his conversations with RATP executives, Mr Kinnock was understandably eager to learn more about a big city transport system that functions to the satisfaction, more or less, of the vast majority of users and still does not lose money. No great secret there: the Government subsidizes some 54 per cent of the RATP's operating costs, compared with 30 per cent — and still reducing — for London, while the payroll tax on firms in Paris, once bitterly unpopular, is a crucially important source of funds.

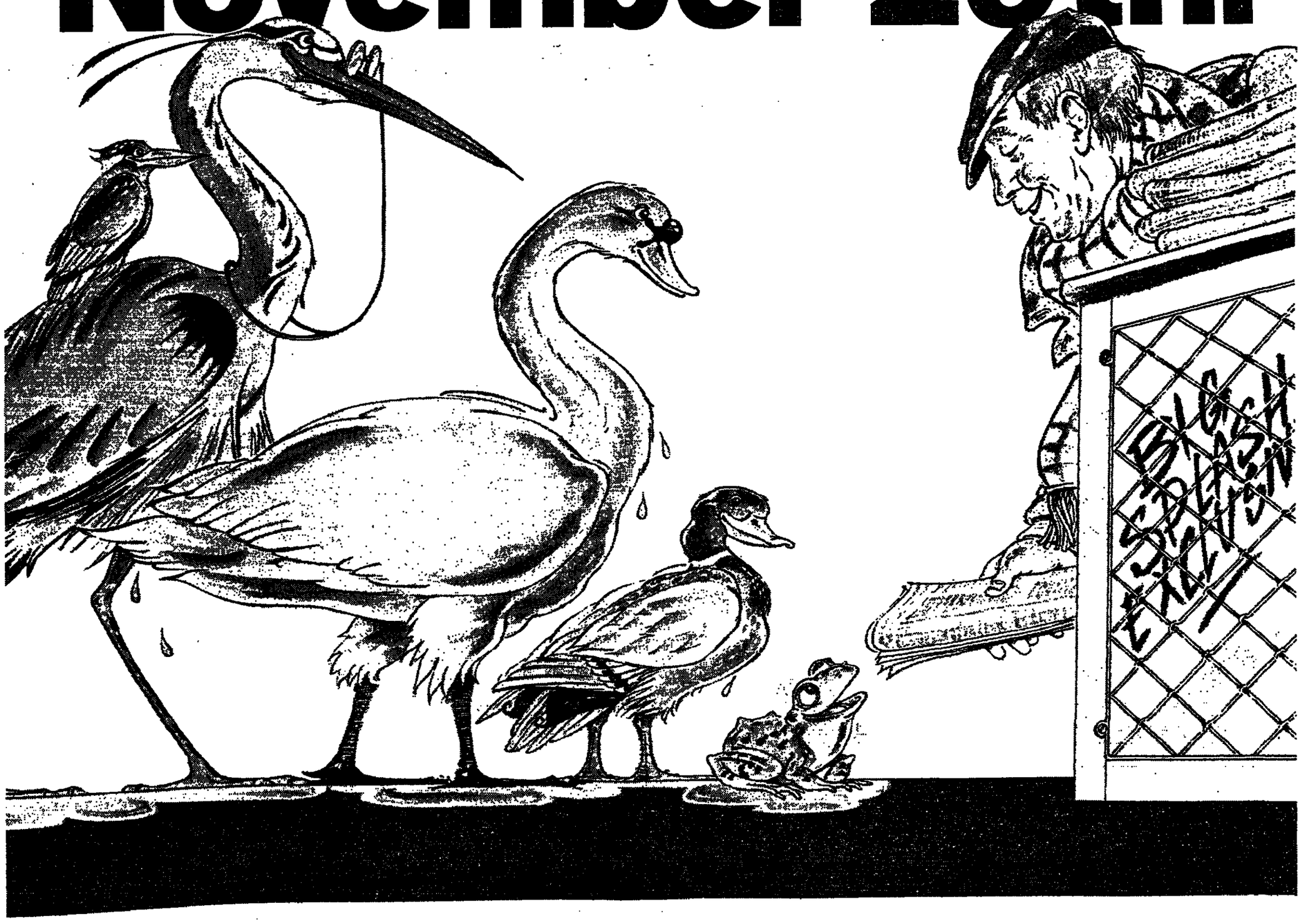
At one point during Mr Kinnock's brisk expedition, watching an advanced control centre track RER train and passenger movements, an official who had inspected the London Tube 15 years ago observed that it was internationally regarded at that time as a model of efficiency. "Yes, fine, but unfortunately there's been no progress since then," said the Labour leader. There is simply no comparison, he declared, between normal maintenance in the Tube system today and the commitment of the RATP to renovating at least five stations every year — taking some care over the aesthetics of making them reasonably attractive places.

Later, it was put to Mr Kinnock that he had not seen the RATP's black spots, particularly the grim and increasingly insecure *Métro* stations in the north-east of Paris, where drugs are hawked quite openly (three crack dealers were arrested at the Robespierre station yesterday) and muggers roam the dark corridors. Point taken, he agreed; he hopes to look at the problem areas on a subsequent visit.

We did finally get on a bus, a "special" laid on by Mr Kinnock's obliging hosts to ferry us briefly round the sights on a glorious, diamond-bright day, made all the more enjoyable by the absence of the usual sharp elbows and menacing brollies.



H_2O application forms in Post Offices, banks and newspapers from November 29th.



The Water Share Offers have been launched, at a price of 240p per share.

From Wednesday, 29th November, prospectuses containing application forms will be available in banks and Post Offices and application forms will be printed in national newspapers. If you have registered, a mini prospectus (with your personal application form) will be sent to you by post.

The minimum investment is £240, of which you will need just £100 up front (the rest is payable in two later instalments; in July 1990 and July 1991).

But remember, the Offers close at 10 am on Wednesday, 6th December. So you'll have to get your flippers on.

H_2O NOV 1989
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TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

Why is it that all sporting rows are utterly ludicrous? The Scottish Football Association has currently banned the BBC from just about everything: all Scotland training camps and matches, and absolutely all news access. For professional sport to ban television is rather like divers banning oxygen, but there you go. The SFA, it seems, is compiling a video of Scottish football's greatest triumphs (I wonder how long it will run), and asked the BBC what it would charge for two clips of film of some of those golden moments from the 1970s; £24,000, was the reply.

The Scots, true to the stereotype, were appalled. Extortionate, they said. It was counter-argued that they would make a million from the video, so it was a fair price. In the midst of all this, the BBC discovered that it did not actually possess the relevant clips, and told the SFA. Well, said the footballing men, what would you charge if you *did* have them? Still £24,000. In that case, Jimmy, you're still banned. Is it my imagination, or is all this totally bonkers?

This is not only the column that supports British ski-jumping and non-League football. It is also the column that speaks up for tricyclists. Faithful friends may recall reading here of a team of trikes that took part in the national road team trial championship last summer. Attempts were made to disqualify them retrospectively, but foundered. Since they managed to beat a few teams of two-wheelers, it was clearly game and first set to the trikes. But now there is a move to ban them. On December 3, delegates to the annual meeting of the Road Team Trials Council will seek to change the wording of the competition rubric to read "teams shall consist of two, three or four *bicycle* riders". The previous wording was a good deal looser. However, there will be a counter-proposal, from East Anglia, East London and the Midlands, to amend the wording further to "bicycle or tricycle riders". I trust the trike men will prevail: to ban trikes would be to ban style and class.

Some footballers are chastened by the flashing of a red card: others are inflamed. Take Fernando D'Ercoli, who was playing for Pianta at Carpinello, in Italy, against a team with the improbable name of Arpax. It was a third division amateur game, but that does not mean it wasn't *molto serio*. D'Ercoli was found guilty of a foul tackle, and the ref, a gentleman of nine months' experience, produced his red card and stuck it triumphantly beneath D'Ercoli's nose. The player promptly snatched it, stuffed it into his mouth and ate it. It was too much for the poor ref, who abandoned the game.

BARRY FANTONI

'I see this packet's marked with a release-by date'

A couple of weeks ago I received a letter from a gentleman who had played in two games of cricket simultaneously in the far-off days of his youth. George Langdale writes to tell me of someone who did the same on May 13 this year. Ian Smith, an Australian, was playing for Mansfield Hosiery Mills against Biwater Clay Cross in the Bassetlaw League division 1B. He was out early on. But on an adjoining pitch the Pretty Polly team (I am *not* making this up) were a man short, and borrowed Smith, with official permission from his side. He scored a ton for the Pretties, and then went back to field for Hosiery Mills. The incident was reported to the Bassetlaw League, which decided it was "against the spirit of the game". Both Smith and the official who gave permission for his departure were banned for two matches.

Believe it or not department. Nigel Martyn, Britain's first £1 million goalkeeper, now with Crystal Palace, was discovered by Bristol Rovers' 73-year-old tealady, Violet Harris. During a visit to Cornwall, she was so impressed when she saw Martyn play for St Blazey that she persuaded Rovers' manager, Gerry Francis, to give him a trial. Rovers got him for the price of a new set of shirts for the Cornish club. Whether Mrs Harris was given an increase on her £1 an hour for making 200 cuppas for Rovers' fans on Saturday afternoons I do not know.

Nationalism: **Peter Brimelow** challenges American assumptions on European unity

Will the melting pot continue to mould?

New York

As you read this, Americans are recovering from stuffing themselves silly with turkey. Thursday was Thanksgiving day, ushering in a four-day weekend.

The traditional American Thanksgiving dinner is very similar to a British Christmas dinner – but the Americans eat Christmas dinner as well. One of their endearing national characteristics is an innocent love of all celebrations – one reason, no doubt, for their spontaneous enthusiasm for Thanksgiving. This supposedly dates back to the Pilgrim Fathers' day of prayer for their first successful harvest, but was in fact created after by a women's magazine campaign in the 19th century.

All nations live by myths. In America, however, the processes of myth-making and nation-building can be observed with unusual clarity. The country is like a suddenly-erupting volcano, not only quite new on the historical scene but also still molten in form, changing visibly with population movements, both domestic and international.

There were some interesting lava bubbles recently during a Washington dinner given by the House of Representatives for the Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, whose triumphal progress through the US has just ended. The Democratic chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Dan Rostenkowski, broke down and, according to a slightly sceptical *New York Times*, "wept with what seemed like genuine regret", as *The New York Times* reported, as he spoke of the years trying to play down his Polishness and 'Anglo-Saxonize' himself".

Of course, Rostenkowski's "Polishness" is something of a term of art. He was born 61 years ago in Chicago. His father was a ward committeeman in the city's notorious Irish-dominated Democratic political machine, as was Rostenkowski after him. Chicago's North Side was heavily Polish, and Poles in America have clung to their language, traditions and neighbourhoods more tenaciously than some other European immigrant groups. But now Rostenkowski's constituency is a quarter Hispanic. And he himself has served in Washington for 30 years.

In other words, Rostenkowski is the very model member of the modern US congressional élite. That he should still feel the pull of his "Polishness" is a commentary on the pervasive influence of ethnic considerations on American politics – and also on their attenuation. Accustomed to referring to themselves as Polish or Italian, when they have not spoken the language for two generations, Americans are often surprised to find that real Poles or Italians view their claims with amusement.

It is because American statesmen take for granted their common American culture, underpinned principally by their common English language, that they tend to assume a European super-state can readily be built on the American model, even though ethnic considerations in Europe are dangerously more than a romantic afterglow.

What did Rostenkowski mean by having to "Anglo-Saxonize" himself? An earlier generation would certainly have said "Americanize". They would even have talked unhesitatingly about an "American look" – blonde hair, blue eyes – a concept now apparently known only to European model agencies. To this day, the stubborn few per cent of the US population who answer the census question on ethnicity by writing "American" are invariably descended from long-established Anglo-Saxon stock.

This view of Americanism is not now fashionable, or, more particularly, is no longer convenient for coalition-building political professionals. The semi-official view is, as Leon Samson put it years ago, that "Americanism is to the American, not a tradition or a territory, not what France is to a Frenchman or England to an Englishman, but a doctrine – what socialism is to a socialist."

There is some truth in this, if only because in the speed of the American eruption, much is explicit that in other countries has evolved implicitly. But the case can be exaggerated. It breaks down on close examination of the doctrine itself. For example, Samson actually was a socialist. He would have been horrified by revisionist libertarian historians who point out that the Pilgrim Fathers' first successful harvest was a direct result of abandoning their original community schemes and substituting production by private owners.

If America has a "doctrine" it is capitalism; not socialism, nor even the left-liberalism that now dominates the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives.

One of the peculiarities of American political language is the debasement of the term "nation". The media habitually employ it as a synonym for "state" – as in "the nation of Yugoslavia", something that multi-ethnic Yugoslavia manifestly is not. Colleagues have argued with me that this is necessary because, in American usage, the word "state" refers specifically to local government units. But they reject my proffered alternatives of "country" or even "polity".

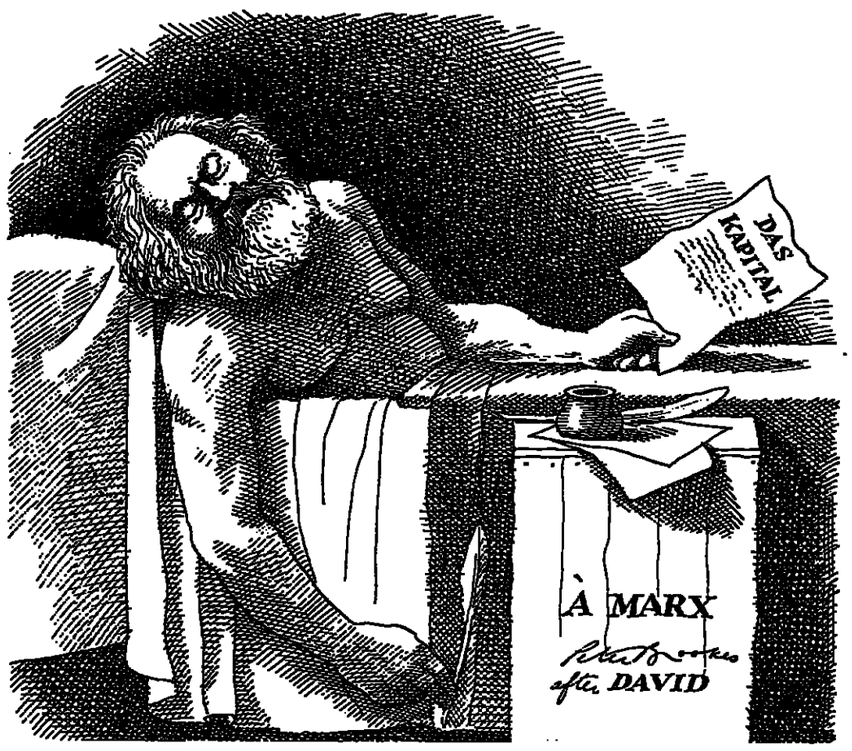
My theory is that this peculiarity reflects their instinctive preference for the modern view that a nation can be an ideology, rather than a blend of values and ethnicity (even though in America the blending is going ahead at top speed). This way they can overlook the dangers of immigration, creeping bilingualism, "*multi-culturalism*", antipathy to "Anglo-Saxonism" and America's incipient Balkanization.

But I bet Dan Rostenkowski ate turkey on Thursday, even though no Pilgrim blood flows in his veins.

The author is a senior editor of Forbes Magazine.

Why the empire will fall apart

Conor Cruise O'Brien argues that nationalism will sweep away communism as it did the *ancien régime* in revolutionary France



The LSE professor who declared that "nationalism is outmoded" should explain that to Mikhail Gorbachov, who will be mighty glad to hear it. Nationalism may be outmoded at the LSE, but it seems to be very much *à la mode* this month in Armenia and Azerbaijan, in the Baltic republics, in Georgia, Moldavia, the Ukraine, and even in Russia itself. And also in Germany, both East and West. What *is* out-moded – in the Soviet Union, in Eastern Europe, and globally – is not nationalism but a supranational ideology: communism.

When supernatural religion became discredited in 18th century France as a result of the Enlightenment, its place was taken by a secular religion: nationalism. "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity" was no more than a slogan, but love of *la patrie* was the great mobilizing force, as the first line of *La Marseillaise* shows. One of the counts in the indictment of the King was "blasphemy against the nation", and when Louis was guillotined, the mob shouted "'*Vive la nation!*"

When a faith fails – whether it be secular or supernatural – people fall back on the collective entity to which they feel they belong: usually, the nation. Such a falling back is the most important thing now going on in the Soviet Union, but whereas in revolutionary France the shift from Catholicism to nationalism was a unifying process, the shift from communism to nationalism in the multi-national Soviet Union is inevitably a disintegrating process. More clearly than the Austro-Hungarian Empire ever was, the Soviet Union is now a prison house of peoples.

How long can the walls of that prison house outlast the Berlin Wall? Nationalism does not exist in a void; it combines and interacts with other social forces, and draws from these its sustenance. Neither the French Revolution nor the disintegration of the Soviet Union began in a mood of nationalist excitement; each began with resentment against an obsolete and economically decrepit system, and especially against the power and privileges of an obnoxious dominant caste. In France of the *ancien régime*, the dominant caste was the nobility; in the Soviet Union, the dominant caste is the Communist Party.

In France, however – as in the constituent parts of the Soviet Union today – the dominant caste was also part of a transnational élite, and was felt not to be part of the nation. After the Revolution it was thought to be conspiring with confrères abroad to restore its authority. Those communist *apparatchiks* who worked behind the scenes for a Stalinist restoration are the modern equivalent of the exiled French nobility plotting a Bourbon restoration.

Under these conditions, in the Soviet Union as in France, what began with the resentment of submerged and oppressed castes against economic and social conditions has undergone a metamorphosis into excited nationalism. The original economic and social grievances are very far from forgotten, but they are increasingly seen as essentially national grievances: crimes perpetrated by foreigners, and agents of foreigners, against the beloved nation.

Along with the interaction between social and economic factors on the one hand, and emergent nationalism on the other, there has been a different kind of interaction, within an even vaster framework: that between domestic Soviet developments and those in the states to the west of the Soviet borders.

Developments inside the Soviet Union were high among the reasons for the "Sinatra doctrine" of Soviet non-intervention in the affairs of the Eastern or central European states. Yet the astonishing pace of the national liberations in those states since they have felt sure that the Soviets would not intervene can hardly fail to have a stimulating effect on the nationalism of the peoples of the Soviet Union itself. Nationalists, wherever they are found, are naturally emulous, and the peoples of the Baltic republics, for example, must be contemplating with fascinated envy the developments in East Germany.

The only way the rulers of the Soviet Union could avert its disintegration would be a return to terror, signalled by some spectacular act of repression. A Soviet Tiananmen Square is not impossible. But it seems unlikely, if only because the return of terror would come with a terrible price tag: the cessation of all Western economic and technological aid. Rather than pay that price, Gorbachov and his pragmatic associates may well prefer to allow the disintegration of their empire: not only of the empire beyond their western border – where disintegration is already far advanced – but also the empire within the Soviet borders, where disintegration is just beginning.

Gorbachov will keep, or try to keep, Russia itself, but for all he may do or say, it will soon be Holy Russia once again, with no damned nonsense about communism from anyone.

Nationalism always stimulates nationalism in neighbouring states. Nationalism in the Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe is flourishing through mutual encouragement, but the national liberations occurring to the east are also stimulating German nationalism, especially in the form of pressure for a united Germany.

Only a few weeks ago, the conventional wisdom was that nationalism was moribund in West Germany and almost non-existent in East Germany. That conventional wisdom has not worn well. Consider, for example, the following *Sunday Times* report on November 19:

> In a freezing fog on the steps of the Secret Police headquarters in Leipzig, four lads in leather jackets burst into hoarse refrain: "*Deutschland, Deutschland über alles*". In the crowd, a small man with a neat scarf and fur hat barked: "Stop it. That is not what it's about at all." He had started the row protesting loudly to those who carried a banner calling for "Free Elections and a United Germany" in patriotic red, black and gold letters . . .

The centripetal tendencies in divided Germany and the centrifugal tendencies in the Soviet Union form a single grand pattern. They point to a future in which a powerful united Germany is economically dominant over the successor states of the exploded Soviet Union. That might be better for the peoples concerned than what they endure now, but in achieving unification, Germany nationalism is liable to become dangerously excited. The signs are already evident.

Janet Daley on how to vary the path to higher education

A flexible line in degrees

The controversy over student loans gathers much of *its* heat from being construed as an attack on the principle of free education. But it is not free education which is at issue, but the system of supporting people while they are being educated. Given the assumptions which underlie access to higher education in Britain, this kind of policy change is as fundamental a shift as any.

The premise of state funding for degree students has been based, like so many things in this country, on the unquestioned acceptance of a historical model. Since higher education was, until the middle of this century, available almost exclusively to those of independent means, it has been implicitly assumed that the way to correct this inequality is to allow all eligible candidates to approximate to this condition of leisured wealth. Thus evolved the scholarship system of support, in which surrogate private incomes were provided to raise poor candidates, for the duration of their studies, to the same circumstances as their well-born contemporaries.

Discussion about maintenance grants or loans may be fundamental to the traditional view, which regards higher education as necessarily involving a certain style of life; but there is a far more radical way in which university education, as well as its financing, could be restructured. Potentially far more revolutionary in its consequences than a shift in maintenance finance is the news that seven universities – Bradford, Brunel, City, Keele, Sheffield, Warwick and Oxford's extra-mural department – plan to set up a scheme for degrees by credit, on the American model. This will enable the student to study part-time, to accumulate a degree in a chosen pattern which may combine with work experience, and to create new adaptable models for degree study.

What it offers is an entirely new way of regarding the possibility of advanced learning. So it is a shame, if unsurprising, that it is the more technical universities such as Brunel and Bradford which have taken up the degree-by-modular-credit scheme. It was predictable that what is perceived to be the downmarket end of the higher education spectrum would be more open to this new manner of gaining qualifications.

What is crucial to the scheme's development as a genuine democratizing force is that it should be seen as a route to becoming truly educated, and not simply to becoming qualified. For the reactionary attitude of many of the politically unlikely disputants in the education debate is based upon a particular conception of what it is to be an educated person. Becoming educated is quite different from becoming "an educated person" in one's manner, lifestyle and expectations. One can become educated by a great variety of means over a lifetime, but becoming "an educated person" is a social initiation which, for optimum effect, must be undergone in youth.

The notion that universities exist to produce this specifically envisaged breed of educated persons is so deeply entrenched that any contrary suggestion is scarcely thinkable in academic circles. Consider for a moment the suggestion that higher education might be seen just as the acquisition of knowledge, with all its attendant possibilities for self-development, rather than an apprenticeship for a latter-day aristocracy of paternalistic elect which is irrevocably alienated from the mass of the population.

I would never recommend that the idyll of academe – full-time undergraduate education within a community of scholars – be removed as an option, only that it be seen as one of a large number of paths to the fulfilment of intellectual potential. Being educated, in the full sense, ought to be consistent with all manner of lifestyles and occupations. It should be a lifelong pursuit, not a rite of passage to a certain class and set of attitudes.

In America, which has pioneered this multi-track access to higher education, one can spend years accumulating course credits from different institutions, but it is not generally possible to earn a degree without doing at least one year's full-time study (known as a "residence requirement"). It has always struck me as appropriate that all candidates should have some experience of total immersion in the cultural community of the university before graduating. The existence of alternatives does not detract from the more traditional forms of undergraduate education, which still predominate in American universities, particularly the more expensive private ones such as Harvard, Yale and Stanford.

But at many of the most prestigious academic institutions in the United States – Berkeley, MIT, Chicago, Cornell – the range of backgrounds of those pursuing different educational paths with different personal aspirations, yet attending the same lectures and seminars, is enormously wider than here. Most universities in the United States are far more heterogeneous than their British equivalents.

The Ivy League colleges of the north-east are a social analogue of Oxbridge, but the academic quality of a university like Berkeley is not diminished by its dynamic mix of student types and social attitudes.

To open out Britain's narrow conception of university education would be not only to unlock the élitist freemasonry which affects the closed shop of the learned professions, but to create a whole new spectrum of possibilities for students to devise their own educational programmes. Not everyone who attends university needs, or wants, to spend three years acquiring the manner and arrogance of his erstwhile betters.

Janet Daley is an author and journalist.

Seeing the Gulag in a rosy glow

MATTHEW PARRIS

A vodka advertisement caught my eye on the Underground the other day. "Stolichnaya", it said, above some lines of Russian script, "Made in the USSR". What intrigued me was the picture. It shows a ghastly concrete building with silos – late Fifties style, probably of reinforced concrete. If this was their refinery, I thought, what sort of an advertisement was this? Harumph!

But then a second sentiment overtook the Harumph: and I swear it was nostalgia. At least I knew that this vodka was genuinely Russian, for no Western advertising agency would suggest a concrete factory as the right brand-image. And, furthermore, this was a Russia which is disappearing forever. These days it's all *glasnost* and Raisa and Mr Gorbachov feeding squirrels in the park.

And my mind went back to those images of Cold War boyhood. The "revolutionary art" – harsh posters in primary colours – big black Zil cars, "people's palaces" of grotesque neo-Moorish design, followed by a style of architecture – perhaps one might call it Totalitarian Brutalism – of which this vodka factory was an example.

You know, I think I'm going to miss it. For of all the world's peoples, are we British not the biggest suckers for becoming affectionate about eras, styles and forms, simply because they are threatened, dying or dead?

What other race would be "listing" hideous concrete buildings from the Fifties? I can just remember the Fifties. They were awful the *first* time around – and now there's a fashion for re-creating the style. Dreadful suits, tasteless jackets, advertisements in pastel shades with triangles coloured in *eau-de-Nil* with arrows and dotted lines. In the Fifties, I recall, we thought the Thirties were crass. I still do. But Thirties' style is modish now as well. As for the Edwardian and Victorian eras, they lacked all grace. Without restraint there can be no elegance or poise. Yet we actually celebrate monstrosities like Big Ben, which in their time were rightly reviled.

Today there can be no railway of which the proposed closure would not elicit a dozen tearful protest meetings. They would be attended by exactly the same type as those who opposed its construction – the Victorian counterparts of those now so outraged by BR's plans to carve a new line through Kent.

And we are the same about religion. It would (I trust) never be seriously argued that Jesus would tolerate 30 seconds of the goings-on that characterize the Established Church. So far as I can understand, they are just the sort of approach he came to destroy.

These things plainly have no association with the gospels, but they aren't supposed to. Their association is with a more recent epoch – the Middle Ages. By clinging to medieval forms we can forget the demands of the awkward faith they clothed. It is probably a precondition of celebrating a style that the substance which once accompanied it is safely dead. That is why we can all be enthusiastic about the monarchy.

And that is why Marxist-Leninist nostalgia may be imminent. But we should start gently. It is probably a little early to become misty-eyed about genocide, forced population migration, or lunatic asylums for dissidents. In time no doubt we shall, but it will certainly take time.

Nor are we quite ready yet to enthuse about environmental wreckage, huge sulphur-dioxide emissions, or salt mines – although their hour too will come.

For the moment, though, aren't we beginning to miss Wartburg cars, Homburg hats, tea with added woodchips, queues outside GUM for skis in July, and suits that don't fit? Where, soon, will be those enormous, anonymous, shapeless party officials' wives, dressed in black, with stockings ending at the knee? Where will be the annual failure of the Agricultural Plan?

Where will be the ballet defectors, the brave Berlin Wall hoppers, and the Aeroflot plane crashes? Where will be the dodgy Cambridge dons? Indeed, where the whole *raison d'être* of the British Intelligence establishment? And where the Red Square military parades? I read on Thursday that the East German army is to abolish the goose-step. Is it too late, then? Can nothing be done? Has it come to this?

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1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

SIR ANTHONY'S LAST TILT

Sir Anthony Meyer, the Conservative MP who has said that he will challenge Mrs Thatcher for the leadership of the party, has delighted his many interviewers during the week by displaying an almost saintly capacity to give full and literal answers to the most damaging questions. Asked on television yesterday whether he now felt like a stalking horse bound for the knacker's yard, he replied, "Not quite, because an awful lot of the people who have been publicly demanding my head on a platter have been coming up to me privately and saying, 'Keep it up, chum' ".

It is, of course, well known that members of Parliament say all manner of preposterous and indiscreet things to each other in the bars and lobbies at Westminster, and that the table talk in some of the grander clubs in St James's causes a frown in the Whips's Office when it is carried back. If what Sir Anthony says is true, however, it is time that those who sit on the Tory benches in the Commons got a grip of themselves.

It is entirely honourable to disagree with the Prime Minister's views on specific issues, particularly if those disagreements are openly expressed, and in this Sir Anthony is an honourable man. But who are his nameless colleagues who urge him to "keep it up"? When can they be expected to divulge something of their reasons?

Mr Julian Critchley, the member for Aldershot, is such a special case that he should be excluded from consideration. He has been mocking the Prime Minister for so long that to support her now would look like an act of apostasy.

There are no doubt one or two ex-ministers who still nurse resentment at their dismissal and who rehearse better arguments to their shaving mirror than they have the stomach to do publicly, but they could all find seats on the lower deck of a bus. It is conceivable that some of the things the Prime Minister had to say in *The Times* yesterday have complicated the matter.

She has now conceded on American television that her earlier remarks about retirement after the next election backfired — "I've never been a lame duck in my life", she announced, in one of the year's more notable statements of the obvious, "and I'm not going to start now".

She was clearly eager to amend the record on that. What is less plain is whether she calculated the impact of her latest response on the present volatile state of backbench opinion. Sir Anthony Meyer's remarks about electing a president for life are absurd, but Mr Denis Thatcher would be quite a senior citizen by 1997.

Conservative MPs should in any case not allow themselves to be distracted by such considerations. Philosophical speculation has never been their strongest suit. They should instead consult their self-interest and ponder their majorities.

The Prime Minister has no doubt as many defects of character as they themselves have. That has not prevented her from leading them to victory at three successive general elections. With their unequivocal backing she could well pull off a fourth.

If reports from the Clwyd North West constituency are anything to go by, the contest for which Sir Anthony Meyer is now foolishly preparing himself is likely to be his last. When he first entered the House of Commons, he squeaked in by 11 votes. If he musters more than that in his final canter round the democratic tilting yard, the Conservative parliamentary party will have reason to be massively ashamed of itself.

OLD DOGS, NEW TRICKS

Tomorrow Hungary reaches a staging post in the rush towards the promised land of democracy. A national referendum is the opportunity for the electorate to vote formally on four questions of which only one is substantive — should the President of the Republic be elected before parliamentary elections? In other words, should the President be elected by direct popular vote or by members of Parliament?

The presidential election by direct vote was originally scheduled for tomorrow. One of the opposition groups, the Alliance of Free Democrats, smelt a rat, however — the election of Imre Pozsgay, former Communist Party apparatchik and brilliant self-publicist, seemed altogether too much of a foregone conclusion.

On a more elevated plane, they also thought that a direct popular vote would give too much clout to the President in his relationship with Parliament. Having therefore collected over 200,000 signatures on a petition, they triggered the new constitutional device, a national referendum on who should be elected first: the President or the MPs.

Any democratic development is heartening, even though this referendum may cost Hungary dear in the long run because it delays the general election. In normal circumstances, a few months delay would hardly matter, and would have little effect on the life of a country. Currently, however, circumstances in central Europe are far from normal. To have the first democratically elected government in the Warsaw Pact could make a substantial — possibly crucial — difference to the country's fortunes.

The rapid political liberalization of the failed "dictatorship of the proletariat" has produced a volatile mixture. There are confused expectations of a better life in the electorate, a state of indecision in the Government (at best a caretaker one) and an understandable preoccupation in the political parties and groups with gaining power. The country's finances are in a mess, and a genuine transition from a command to a market economy is proving to be a very difficult process, with a host of legal, financial and administrative problems.

Those in government and those in opposition know only too well that hard and unpopular decisions have to be made to halt inflation, to cut the budget deficit and to establish an efficient public administration. Hungary's crippling international debt burden must also be put on a manageable basis.

Even the first flush of democratic enthusiasm does not encourage politicians to introduce vote losing measures in the run up to a general election, however. This rule of the democratic game is the first to have sunk in.

Meanwhile, because of the uncertainties, badly needed foreign capital is trickling rather than flowing in. Problems of this kind do not, of course, disappear just because of a general election, but the sooner there is a proper parliament and a competent government, the sooner minds will be made up in such places as the IMF, national treasuries and the boardrooms of Western enterprises with an eye on the new opportunities.

Miklos Nemeth, the Prime Minister, speaking in a parliamentary debate on the new constitution expressed the frustration felt by those who are learning that the democratic process is not synonymous with prompt and effective decision making. He gave a sober warning to his colleagues: "The increasing tensions in society, threatening to explode, could sweep away parliament itself and would create conditions for force and chaos".

No free society can claim to have found an easy way of reconciling the political decencies with the practical, and sometimes urgent, requirements of governments. Hungary can only look to herself to find the right balance between these conflicting demands.

ON GUARD

The Swiss army is facing a similar fate to that of the country's world famous battle fleet. Tomorrow, the electorate of this fiercely neutral country will vote on whether or not they should abolish it.

But the army, unlike the Swiss navy, is no joke. It has actually more artillery than West Germany, about half as many battle tanks as France and considerably more troops on call than Britain.

It is admittedly slightly out of practice, not having fought a battle since the year 1515. Against whom? The Swiss have to scratch their heads when asked. On the other hand the Swiss mercenary soldier — like Italian waiters, Welsh preachers and French chefs — was once a bigger export than the cuckoo clock. His successors are steeped in military tradition.

Moreover Switzerland's long period of peace (unviolated since the Napoleonic Wars) could have something to do with this military dedication. The Alps are often alive with the sound of gunfire as the conscripts of this largely citizens' army train to fight some ill-defined enemy from the east. Its borders are lined by customs posts and tank traps, its 2,000 bridges and railways are ready to be mined.

It is more of a militia than an army. All healthy males between the ages of 20 and 50 begin with 17 weeks initial training, then spend three weeks every year or so thereafter keeping their skills and knowledge up to date.

They keep their rifles and basic equipment (though not their main battle tanks) at home. They could muster 625,000 in 48 hours (in theory anyway) and Hitler is said to have been deterred by their readiness. From the gnomes of Zurich to the burghers of Bern, the Swiss take their defences very seriously.

Indeed that is half the trouble. Tomorrow's abolition referendum has less to do with Swiss soldiers than with society. Because of the comprehensive military involvement, every factory and bank is staffed by soldiers *manqués* who run their business on military lines. They are almost literally captains of Swiss industry, whose civil-military lives are intertwined.

Military promotion means more status in society — and as often as not a better job in management. An unofficial freemasonry obtains, which works against the interests of women and the unsoldierly. Feminists are among the referendum's sponsors.

Conscientious objectors are rarely if ever tolerated. More than 600 people are annually tried in court for refusing to enter military service. Most are sent to prison for up to six months, irrespective of their political or religious misgivings — to the anger of the pacifists and left-wingers.

The referendum was thus set in train three years ago, sponsored mainly by those pacifists and left-wingers. They secured the essential 100,000 signatures and have patiently waited their turn to bring it forward. As it is, given events in Eastern Europe, they could hardly have chosen a more favourable time.

With most of the main parties and big unions against them (the unions are fearful of job losses in a country which knows little unemployment) they have very little chance of actually winning. But they could win the votes of 30 per cent of the electorate, including a majority of young people.

Such a result would be a kind of moral victory which could have repercussions for future Swiss society. It could cause a ripple through the ranks, too, impinging on Swiss military operations. There lies behind the referendum serious criticism of outdated army training. However enthusiastic they may be, however defensible their frontiers may seem, their chances of fighting a 20th-century enemy, are (it is said) extremely questionable.

It seems unlikely therefore that the Swiss will wake up next week to find they have scrapped their considerable militia (it would actually be phased out by the year 2000 if the "yes" votes won). But they have already prompted a national debate about long-held assumptions in the country. Tomorrow they could give Switzerland's generals a bigger fright than anyone has succeeded in doing in nearly five prosperous centuries of peace.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Election rules on Tory leader

From Mr Humphry Berkeley

Sir, I think that I can claim responsibility for the method by which the Conservative Party now elects its leader. I wrote to Sir Alec Douglas-Home (as he then was) on January 1, 1964, when he was still Prime Minister, about the method by which he was chosen, which had come under severe criticism. At his request, I agreed to postpone the matter until after the general election of 1964.

On December 3, 1964, Sir Alec, who was then Leader of the Opposition, asked me to send him the memorandum which I had written. He acknowledged this on December 10 and I had a meeting with him on December 14: After this meeting, I wrote to him on December 15, saying,

I am delighted that you accept the three basic principles of procedure outlined in my memorandum — namely, that members of Parliament alone should vote, that they should do so by secret ballot, and that the result should be published.

My memorandum stated, in paragraph 11,

A secret ballot is necessary so that members of Parliament can quite freely express a preference without being subject to any pressure or guidance from any quarter.

The third paragraph of a document called "Procedure for the selection of the Leader of the Conservative and Unionist Party", which was announced by Sir Alec in February, 1965, states,

The names of the proposer and seconder will not be published and will remain confidential to the scrutineers.

Leading members of the Conservative Party are demanding not only that the names of the proposer and seconder of any rival to Mrs Thatcher should be made public but also that Conservative members of Parliament should be compelled to tell their constituents how they have voted.

If this is done, both the spirit and letter of Sir Alec's formula and of my memorandum to him will have been broken and the Conservative Party would be breaking the rules which were unanimously accepted in February, 1965. All these matters were made public in George Hutchinson's biography of Edward Heath, with the consent of Lord Home and myself.

Yours faithfully,
HUMPHRY BERKELEY,
Three Pages Yard, Chiswick, W4.
November 24.

Boat people policy

From Sir Peter Blaker, MP for Blackpool South (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Lionel Bloch and others (November 14) ask why the British Government does not appeal to the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India and members of the EC to take some of the Hong Kong boat people.

The answer is quite simple. At the international conference on Vietnamese boat people, held in Geneva last June, Britain made such an appeal; the countries approached declined to take the economic migrants, who make up some 90 per cent of those arriving this year, although there is international agreement to resettle all of the genuine refugees within three years.

The reality is that for these countries to continue to accept refugees, as they wish to do, a system of screening genuine refugees from illegal immigrants is essential. This process goes on throughout the world; following it refugees can be resettled, and illegal immigrants returned.

Yours sincerely,
PETER BLAKER,
House of Commons.
November 21.

Good companions

From Mr M. H. Williams

Sir, On our lovely Conwy estuary — lovely still despite the huge by-pass and tunnel project — something has happened that is intriguing many of us.

Some months ago one of a pair of swans was stoned to death. Now, after a period alone, the survivor has found a new companion — a white goose.

Whether we now have a cob and a goose or a pen and a gander I do not know, but the two are inseparable and bob about in perfect harmony, although sometimes the goose has to work hard to keep up, especially when swimming against our very fast tide.

This strange pair also live in amity with a complete family of cob, pen and three cygnets.

I am, Sir, yours etc.,
M. H. WILLIAMS,
4 St Hilary's Court,
St Hilary's Drive,
Conwy, Gwynedd.
November 18.

National criteria for job skills

From the Principal of the Royal National College for the Blind

Sir, You report (November 17) that the Secretary of State for Employment deplores the lack of interest in retraining shown by the workforce. May I remind him that one section of it is desperately keen — those who are disabled. Yet the current changes in employment training, added to the economies outlined in the autumn statement, put this most vulnerable section of the community once again at risk.

This is because the minister is handing employment training over to training and enterprise councils (TECs), comprising local businessmen, starting in April, 1991. Each TEC (of 82 in England alone) will have a fixed budget, and its success will be measured and rewarded according to the number of jobs obtained.

The interest of the TECs and the local community will be best served by training as many people as possible as cheaply as possible. The interests of the national community, however, demand an investment in the inevitably high-cost specialist training of disabled people, enabling them to lead productive working lives.

What is now needed is a *national* TEC for the severely disabled, with funding as adequate as that which is at present provided. In this way our specialised training which leads the world can continue to serve the nation, while local TECs can concentrate on the straightforward business of satisfying local employment needs. Cuts here could prove self-inflicted wounds.

Yours sincerely,
LANCE MARSHALL, Principal,
Royal National College
for the Blind,
College Road, Hereford.
November 17.

From the Director and General Manager of Channel Four Television

Sir, Mr Fowler finds the short-term attitudes of British employers to training, and the consequence that many employees have never had any vocational training, "mind-boggling". There are many among those professionally involved in training who are not at all surprised by the findings of the "Training in Britain" report.

Employer and employee self-interest do not in themselves provide the sufficient or sustained effort necessary to tackle the skills shortages that are increasingly blunting our national competitive edge. Some companies can survive with a cynical policy of poaching those trained by others, often inflating the labour market in the process.

The training budgets of enlightened companies become increasingly vulnerable in these circumstances. We now see that, left to itself, much of British industry will not pay now to provide the skills it will need in the future. Government exhortation is not enough; intervention is necessary.

The success of the Government's plans for an expansion of independent programme production in the de-regulated televison industry of the 1990s will depend upon the supply of properly-trained freelance technicians. These same changes will mean that the training effort by the broadcasters is likely to diminish.

A shortage of people with the right skills will inflate production costs and drive production overseas. We have therefore urged the Government to ensure that all the commercial broadcasters which will benefit from the skills of those involved in programme-making should be required to contribute to the costs of training them. We hope that the forthcoming broadcasting Bill will not ignore this important matter.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK McGETTIGAN,
Director and General Manager,
Channel Four Television,
60 Charlotte Street, W1.
November 21.

From Professor Michael Rosen and Mr Peter Baskett

Sir, In the UK, unlike many other advanced countries, paramedic services depend upon the enthusiasm of a few ambulancemen who volunteer to undertake advanced training without extra remuneration and of their teachers, many of whom are consultant anaesthetists working in conjunction with colleagues in cardiology and accident and emergency medicine.

This training has enabled these paramedics to diagnose and treat victims of heart attack, asthma, near-drowning, electrocution and severe injury to a standard equal to any throughout the world. There is little doubt that these specially trained members of the ambulance service have not only saved lives but have also minimised the painful, debilitating and socio-economic consequences of becoming suddenly ill or seriously injured. More people die of trauma each and every week than at Hillsborough on that fateful Saturday. We really do need well-trained paramedics in our community.

While not wishing to comment on the present dispute, it is a great step forward, and to the credit of the secretary of state, that he has recently offered to support and reward such training. We, as anaesthetists, and others involved in the emergency services applaud this advance. We look forward to early discussions upon the implementation of a national paramedic service.

Yours faithfully,
M. ROSEN (President, College of Anaesthetists),
PETER BASKETT (President, World Association of Emergency and Disaster Medicine),
College of Anaesthetists,
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.
November 22.

Nuremburg lesson?

From Mr Dominic Brennan

Sir, You reported (November 18) that Mr Krenz had refused a written order from Erich Honecker to direct the police to open fire upon protesters in Leipzig and other cities in the GDR.

Could it be that the Nuremberg trials have finally been proven to be other than tribunals exacting victors' revenge? Perhaps even Mr Krenz, whose hands must be bloodstained from his years as head of his country's security service, and whose public support for the Chinese Government after the Tiananmen Square massacre is well known, paused and reflected on the fate of those German leaders who vainly attempted to excuse their crimes against humanity with the spurious defence of superior orders.

If so, thank God for the work carried out by Lord Justice Lawrence and his fellow judges so many years ago.

Yours faithfully,
DOMINIC BRENNAN,
63 Kenilworth Avenue,
Wimbledon, SW19.
November 20.

Czech awakening

From Mr M. J. Svoboda

Sir, What is so heartening about the current events in Prague is not merely the prospect of the collapse of another totalitarian regime but also the leading role of students and young workers in this historical change.

I am 27 years old. Twenty-one years after the "Prague Spring" compatriots of my own age are making me proud of my name; it means freedom in the Czech tongue.

I remain, Sir, yours sincerely,
M. SVOBODA,
58 Agnes Road, W3.
November 23.

Examination fatigue

From Mr V. S. Anthony

Sir, Mr Vickerman (November 21) has stressed the dependence of the Joint Matriculation Board on the guidance of teachers: we applaud this. I hope that he and the other board secretaries will be further guided by the following advice.

The timetable for GCSE examinations should revert to the arrangement whereby all the major subject examinations take place in the second half of the summer term. (Under the new timetable most pupils will have finished the bulk of their exams *before* half term). They should respond much more sensitively to the worries expressed by schools over some examination results. Schools know their candidates very well and only appeal to the boards when they consider that justice has not been done.

The appeals procedure must be carried out much more quickly. Some schools and their pupils have still not heard the results of their appeals some three months after the results were issued. We hope the boards will respond to the views of schools by helping to establish independent arbitration (an ombudsman) to deal with those cases where schools are left unhappy after appeals have been completed.

If Mr Vickerman heeds this advice we shall indeed be convinced that his board is "attentive to the needs of schools and responsive to the views of subject teachers".

Yours faithfully,
V. S. ANTHONY (Chairman,
Academic Policy Committee,
Headmasters' Conference),
Colfe's School,
Horn Park Lane, SE12.
November 21.

Nuclear power

From the Chairman of the UK Atomic Energy Authority

Sir, As chairman of the Atomic Energy Authority, and as chairman designate of the new nuclear utility, I must correct the error in your report (November 22) on the resumption of the Hinkley inquiry. The UK Atomic Energy Authority will not "take over responsibility for nuclear power stations", when the CEGB is split. That will be the function of the new public sector nuclear utility.

General confusion still persists over the difference between the *costs* of nuclear power, which have *not* significantly changed, and the *prices* which would have been demanded in a risk-averse private sector seeking to recover capital over short time-scales, and with a high rate of return.

Recent OECD studies have demonstrated nuclear power continues to be competitive with fossil fuels in almost every country. With the longer perspectives afforded by retention in the public sector, I am confident that our experience will be the same.

The new utility will have to demonstrate much more than economics. It will be our job to operate existing plants safely with increasing efficiency and reduced costs, and to establish the PWR (pressurised water reactor) option as a practical reality at Sizewell.

Nuclear power continues to have a vital role to play, as Europe prepares for an energy scene in the 21st century which may be radically different from today's, and as we come to grips with the increasingly serious environmental consequences of our present reliance on fossil fuels. Recent decisions have laid the foundations we need. It will not be my job to supervise the rundown of the nuclear power in this country, but to plan for its future.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN G. COLLIER, Chairman,
United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority,
11 Charles II Street, SW1.
November 22.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

Cutting the cost of probate tax

From Miss Joan M. Rees

Sir, Dying is an expensive business but there is one expense which indicates an avoidable inequity in our present probate system.

When application is made for a grant of probate or letters of administration, an Inland Revenue account has to be filed. Inheritance tax is assessed on the basis of this account and (with a few exceptions — e.g., for land) the tax has to be paid before a grant is issued.

This means in practice that as the executors cannot deal with the deceased's assets until after the probate is granted, in virtually all cases where tax is payable, the money has to be borrowed from a bank on an undertaking by the executors to repay when assets can be realised: it is very rare for the family to have cash available, though sometimes insurance has been effected to help out.

The Revenue benefits from this arrangement, in so far as it gets tax on account up front. The only allowance made to the estate is the ability of the executors to get tax relief on the bank interest paid. So far as the beneficiaries are concerned it is yet another "cost of dying" in respect of which the banks seem to be substantial beneficiaries.

Why cannot the rules be changed so that the total interest paid is deducted from the inheritance tax bill in the course of the administration? Alternatively, could not the grant be issued without payment of tax, and the executors be given a limited period, say three months, to raise it out of the assets of the estate, paying it to the Revenue before interest becomes chargeable? This would be unlikely to lead to delay in applying for grants: beneficiaries are always keen to proceed because they want to get their hands on the money.

Yours faithfully,
JOAN REES,
Walton & Morse (Solicitors),
Plantation House,
31-35 Fenchurch Street, EC3.
November 21.

Pupils and drugs

From the Headmaster of Bromsgrove School

Sir, I wish that "a caring and compassionate doctrine consistent with today's Christian values" had pointed towards my giving a second chance within Bromsgrove School to the four pupils recently expelled for being in possession of cannabis (Mr Kemlo's letter, November 20).

To have kept them in the school would have been the pleasant and easy short-term option, bearing in mind the heartache and upset that expulsion causes, not only to the pupils, but also to their parents and those involved in their welfare.

However, schools have a wider and longer-term responsibility to protect the majority of their pupils by reducing the risks of their charges dabbling in drugs, with the disastrous consequences which may follow.

Educational programmes emphasising the risks of drug involvement are essential, but are not enough. We need to make it clear, by words and actions, that there can be no second chance for those who put others at risk by their involvement, in even in a minor way, with illegal drugs.

Yours sincerely,
T. M. TAYLOR,
Headmaster's House,
Bromsgrove School,
Worcestershire.
November 23.

Cash for HIV victims

From Mr Tony Baldry, MP for Banbury (Conservative)

Sir, Your leader, "Help for haemophiliacs" (November 24), was less than fair on Mr Clarke and the Government. There is a clear precedent for the way in which the Government has responded to this tragic situation.

The last Labour Government introduced the Vaccine Damage Payments Bill in 1979 in similar circumstances by providing a lump sum for children severely damaged by vaccination under a routine public policy vaccination programme. As in the present instance, such a lump sum was not in any way a bar to subsequent civil proceedings nor did it prejudice any of the legal rights of those who received it.

Such an approach had all-party support on that occasion and Mr Clarke's response in similarly difficult circumstances likewise deserves all-party support.

Yours sincerely,
TONY BALDRY,
House of Commons.
November 24.

Army surplus?

From Mr G. F. Wooldridge

Sir, I note with some concern that the Swiss (report, November 20) are debating scrapping their army. I trust that their deliberations will include contingency arrangements for the continuation of the supply of pocket knives.

Yours faithfully,
G. F. WOOLDRIDGE,
Hallons Quay,
Hallonsford,
Worfield,
Bridgnorth,
Shropshire.
November 20.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 24: The Duke of York, Patron of the Contemporary Dance Trust, this evening attended a performance by the London Contemporary Dance Theatre at Sadler's Wells Theatre.

Major William McLean was in attendance.

The Prince Edward this evening attended a charity gala performance of "Re:Joyce" at the Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, in aid of the Muscular Dystrophy Group of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 24: The Princess Royal today visited Hereford and Worcester and opened a new building at Droitwich High School.

Afterwards Her Royal Highness opened part of the new development at the Worcester College for the Blind.

Subsequently, The Princess Royal opened the new College of Further and Higher Education at Bromsgrove and Redditch Campus.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight and was attended by Mrs Richard Carew Pole.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 24: The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, visited Hall Cross Comprehensive School and Balby Carr School, Doncaster.

Subsquently, His Royal Highness attended a meeting of local and national businessmen at the South Yorkshire Headquarters, British Coal, Doncaster.

The Prince of Wales travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mr Guy Salter and Commander Alistair Watson, RN were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 24: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this afternoon opened the Society's Derbyshire Child Protection Team's Unit and Family Centre in Ripley. Her Royal Highness was received on arrival at East Midlands Airport by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Derbyshire (Colonel Peter Hilton).

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by The Lady Elizabeth Cavendish.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 24: The Duke and Duchess of Kent arrived at Royal Air Force Northolt this morning from Sweden.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
November 24: Princess Alexandra, Patron of CARE for mentally handicapped people, this afternoon visited CARE Kibworth and CARE Shangton in Leicestershire.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Royal engagement

TODAY: The Princess Royal, as Patron of the United Kingdom/New Zealand 1990 Organization, will attend the All Blacks v The Barbarians rugby match at Twickenham at 1.55.

German honour for scientist

Professor Joseph Rotblat, the nuclear physicist who is emeritus professor of physics at St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School and President of the Pugwash Movement, has been awarded the Knight Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of West Germany for his work to secure dialogue between East and West. The presentation was made in London by the West German Ambassador, Baron von Richthofen.

Organ award

The competition for the Royal College of Organists' performer of the year award has been won by Mr Graham Jackson, formerly organ scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge, and now junior fellow in conducting, Royal Northern College of Music.

Clifford Longley

In search of the New Age

It often happens that new ideas become important just because important people say they are important. So far, it seems, no member of the British Government has yet uttered the words "New Age" in public. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, certainly now has; and so it will only be a matter of time before a Minister does too — perhaps Christopher Patten, the nearest to a New Ageist in the present administration.

The New Age movement, Dr Runcie told a conference recently, is hard to define — and "that is what makes it so important for us to take it seriously". It is, so to speak, an idea whose time has come precisely because people are looking for things difficult to define. It refers to a ground swell, an uncentralized movement of many diverse constituents, which seeks to reunite the spiritual and the natural order which hard science and soft secularism have put asunder.

The name itself is Californian (of course) but there is no head office: a New Ageist is simply someone who looks at reality in a certain way and reacts a certain way. It has echoes of the mystical fringe of the sixties hippy movement, and the title itself refers to the astrological progression, associated with the start of the third millennium, from Pisces to Aquarius. But astrology is not compulsory; nor in fact is anything except a certain outlook.

What interested Dr Runcie about it was its religious aspect, and the nagging thought that New Age thinking corresponded better to the spiritual needs of the present generation than orthodox Christianity could hope to do. His advice to the church was to adopt the New Age agenda for itself, if not its answers; and on Thursday in Strasburg he could be heard following his own advice. In a speech to European Parliamentarians he urged the extension of the well known Christian coupling of "justice and peace" — a phrase he attributed to the Second Vatican Council — into a trinity: justice, peace, and the "integrity of creation".

The New Age is undoubtedly green. It shares the contemporary perception of Planet Earth as a small and fragile globe which is mankind's one precarious home in the entire universe. The concept of Gaia, invented by Professor James Lovelock to describe the unity, interdependence and equilibrium of the planetary eco-system, offers New Ageism the beginnings of a theology once Gaia is made to sound (contrary to Lovelock's intention) like a mother goddess who is divine protectress of all living things.

Many agnostics are more unhappy with monotheism than with all othertheisms, and eco-pantheism has a lot which could appeal to them even if it leads a few to Stonehenge in midsummer. The British are particularly prone to the idea that God inhabits nature — Blake, an early prophet of the New Age, had Christ "walking on England's pastures green" — and studies of spontaneous religious experience have shown that they are often triggered by scenes of great natural beauty. Nature can still conjure awe where formal worship fails.

Apart from Blake, the New Age's patron saint would have to be St Francis, not for his love of landscape but his

One of the doctrines of the New Age is that "sufficient is enough"

teaching that all life is sacred. The New Age covers animal rights (whatever that might mean), herbal remedies and health foods, cottage industry like pottery, and a general dislike of high science, new technology, and factory farming. The New Age even has a psychology of its own, stressing personal fulfillment and open and free relationships, though it has no distinctive sexual connotation. Anything goes, so long as it is "holistic".

It is too disorganized to be a cult; but still too close to the mood of the times to be ignored. If those commentators are right who see a growing appetite for a return of the spiritual and a hunger for values, the New Age could well win the jackpot. This would not be without political significance, for one of the few agreed doctrines of the New Age is that "sufficient is enough" — that the endless pursuit of economic growth or personal wealth is not only spiritually ignoble but harmful to the planet and everything dependent on it. Needless to say New Age is the product of a certain level of prosperity and security: it is definitely bourgeois, yet fits badly with Thatcherism. The opposite of the New Age is the Yuppie, until the Yuppie sheds his Porsche and turns evergreen.

The New Age movement is consciously millenarian, both in the literal sense that it sees the year 2000 as a watershed and in the apocalyptic sense that it fears the possibility of mass destruction by the ruination of the planet. It is ready and waiting, therefore, to step into the shoes of CND and to appeal to the same idealism. And as in that case, the fear it raises is realistic enough.

Not all of this need worry organized religion in Britain, particularly if it follows Dr Runcie's advice and embraces the better bits. There is a significant part of the New Age spectrum which is Christian already (though the stress on salvation by organic food rather than by faith worries Evangelicals).

Catholic thinkers like Schumacher, Barbara Ward (the late Lady Jackson), and Teilhard de Chardin have all contributed, wittingly or not, to the philosophy of the New Age. Buddhism is even closer in spirit.

There is nevertheless a tendency, which the Archbishop of Canterbury identified in his recent speech, for the New Age to treat all religions as equivalently true, even as needing to be synthesized into a new whole. That is what happens whenever religions are recruited to some other cause than their own, not treated as ends in themselves but as spiritual support for some other vision. Ideology always corrupts theology.

The New Age is only secondarily religious, seeking to borrow religion to fill its own gaps. It would be good for the spread of New Age ideas, but bad for religion itself, if the attempt were successful.

But the colonization of ideas could just as well happen in reverse. It would be good for organized religion if it could learn from the New Age movement a relevant and pressing concern for the "integrity of creation", thereby correcting one of its own most serious oversights; and at the same time good for Planet Earth to be befriended by such powerful forces just when it needs friends most.

OBITUARIES

DR ROBERTO ARIAS
Wedded to ballet and politics

Arias and Fonteyn on their wedding day, 1955

Dr Roberto Arias, the Panamanian diplomat and politician who had twice been his country's Ambassador to Britain, died on November 22 in Panama City aged 71.

Arias, who married the celebrated ballet dancer, Dame Margot Fonteyn, in 1955, had come very close to death 25 years ago when a political rival fired three bullets at him at short range. Amazingly Arias survived but was paralysed from the waist down and thereafter confined to a wheelchair.

Roberto Emilio Arias was born in Panama in 1918 into one of Panama's most influential political families. His father, Harmodio Arias, was President of Panama from 1932 to 1936. Roberto Arias went to school in the United States and then graduated in Law from Cambridge and went on to do a doctorate at the Sorbonne.

He was called to the Bar in Panama in 1939, and also took a lively interest in his country's effervescent but frequently hazardous politics. He became editor of the newspaper *El Panama-America* newspaper in 1942 and after a brief period as counsellor in his country's embassy in Chile, he became publisher of *La Hora* newspaper. Neither of the titles is now in publication.

He was Ambassador in London from 1955 to 1958 and again from 1960 to 1962, and had been Delegate to the UN Assembly in New York in 1953.

His political enthusiasms also led him into a celebrated adventure in 1959, when he was accused of being the leader of a small band of revolutionaries who tried to overthrow the Government of President Ernesto de la Guardia, who had come into conflict with the Arias family. Arias took refuge in the Brazilian Embassy for two months before being given safe conduct out of the country and his wife was arrested and expelled from the country. Arias was subsequently allowed to return to his country and to serve his second term as its ambassador to London.

In May, 1964, he was elected to a seat in the National Assembly, and it was a dispute over the results of the election which led to an associate in his party firing three bullets at him from a revolver. Though crippled and confined to a wheelchair he took up his seat, holding it until 1968.

After Dame Margot's retirement from dancing she helped Arias run the 500-acre cattle farm he had acquired by the Pacific Ocean, 60 miles southwest of Panama City.

There were no children of his marriage to Margot Fonteyn; he is survived by her, and by a son and two daughters of a previous marriage.

CAPTAIN MAX WALKER
Nurturing the infant Kenyan Navy

Captain Max Walker, OBE, who died on November 21 at the age of 62, had a naval career which was distinguished by his having planned, founded and commanded the Kenyan Navy in the years immediately following independence in 1963.

With instability threatening the infant military forces of the former East African colonies at the time of the Zanzibar revolution (put down by British forces), the Conservative government offered swift help to the government of Jomo Kenyatta. Setting up a tiny force of four patrol-boats was one of the items agreed (together with port facilities at Mombasa for the Royal Navy) and Walker was seconded to be its commander.

At the outset it was staffed entirely by British crews but Walker rapidly recruited, trained and dispatched cadets to Dartmouth and within a year the young navy had its first engagement, "showing the flag" against Somali intruders. Walker, who was appointed OBE for this command, had only one regret as the Kenyan Navy expanded to its present nine-vessel strength; it was that under subsequent British command the singular switch was made to army rankings for naval officers.

Walker had earlier chanced on dramatic service at Mombasa when as navigating officer of the frigate HMS *Loch Fada* he had, in 1956, taken part in secretly transporting Archbishop Makarios to Seychelles into his brief exile before he was freed to become President of Cyprus.

Almost immediately after joining the Navy from Gordonstoun, Walker, as a young Midshipman, saw action in the so-called Corfu mining incident of 1946 in which a British cruiser and destroyer struck Albanian-laid mines in international waters with severe loss of life.

A navigation specialist with wide international experience, Walker was the first ever British staff graduate from the École Navale de Guerre in Paris in the first year of de Gaulle's presidency; later he was the first foreign faculty member at the US Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.

His final posting was as Chief of Staff to Flag Officer, Medway, and Captain of the Port and Queen's Harbourmaster at Chatham. On retirement it was a connection he was to renew as board member of the Medway Ports Authority although his chief civilian job was as one of three full-time assistant secretaries of the Association of Consulting Engineers.

He is survived by his widow, Betty, and two daughters.

DR GORDON SHEALS
Expert view of the Yeti and Loch Ness monster

Dr John Gordon Sheals, who pioneered research into the effects of insecticides on soil fauna, died on November 17, aged 65. He was the longest serving Keeper of Zoology at the Natural History Museum, London, holding the post for 13 years until his retirement in 1985.

The potential for devastation to the fauna and hence to soil fertility was given publicity by Rachel Carson in her influential book *Silent Spring*, which quoted Sheals's work.

He was also concerned with rather larger and less identifiable creatures. He was asked to bring his scientific skills, as well as a sense of humour, to bear on such contentious subjects as the Loch Ness Monster and the Yeti. He was Keeper in 1975 when there was discussion on the significance of recent photographs taken at Loch Ness by an American expedition and was called in to give an opinion.

He was not convinced by the photographs but added that he had no reason to doubt the integrity of the people doing the research. He did not feel there was sufficient evidence to come to a conclusion. Sheals never ruled out the possibility of the existence of either the Yeti or the Loch Ness monster.

John Gordon Sheals was born in Caernarvon on December 19, 1923. He was educated at Caernarvon County School and the University College of North Wales, Bangor. After commissioned service in the RNVR, he returned to Bangor in 1946 as an assistant entomologist in the National Agricultural Advisory Service where he carried out research into sterility in oats.

In 1949 he resigned to take up an assistant lectureship in zoology at the West of Scotland Agricultural College. He was awarded a PhD from Glasgow University in 1955 for a thesis on the effects of the insecticides DDT and BHC on the soil fauna.

Sheals developed an interest in the classification and identification of mites during this work. After a brief return to the NAAS, when he was based at Wolverhampton, he joined the Arachnida Section — concerned with spiders, scorpions, mites and related creatures — at the Natural History Museum in 1958. In 1961, he was co-leader of the Museum's expedition to East Nepal when for the first time in that country, quantitative studies of the soil fauna were made.

He was promoted to Principal Scientific Officer in 1965, to Deputy Keeper in 1968 and was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Biology in 1970.

Sheals was ahead of his colleagues in using computer techniques to construct classifications of animals. Among other innovations he brought to the department was the initiation of computer cataloguing of the collections.

He was appointed Keeper of Zoology in 1971. New buildings were commissioned to house the sub-department of ornithology at Tring and major changes took place in gallery displays.

He is survived by his son David.

School news

Penrhos College, Colwyn Bay
The Governors wish to announce the foundation of The Kay Peacock Memorial Travel Award.

The Award, to the value of £500, will be made annually, "to a present pupil, or past pupil to the age of 30, to enable her to travel and explore in distant places". Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary.

Reunion Dinner at the College in March 1990:

It is proposed to hold a reunion dinner for past pupils who have left school since 1975. Old Penrhosians who might wish to attend are asked to send their names and addresses to the Headmaster's Secretary as soon as possible.

Redland High School for Girls
The Governors of Redland High School for Girls, Bristol, have pleasure in announcing the appointment of Mrs Carol Lear as Headmistress with immediate effect. Mrs Lear has had a long association with the school and was previously Deputy and Acting Headmistress.

St Godric's College
The annual Old Students' Association Reunion will take place at the 'White House', 82 Fitzjohn's Avenue, London, NW3 at 5.30 pm on Saturday, December 2, 1989. All Old Students welcome. Enquiries to Donna Butcher, 2 Arkwright Road, London, NW3. Telephone 01-435 9831.

Latest wills

Mr Frank Erskine Bell, of Cambridge, pioneer in the teaching of English as a foreign language, left estate valued at £614,486 net.

Dr Frank Maudsley Parsons, of Bramhope, West Yorkshire, artifical kidney pioneer, left estate valued at £181,357 net.

Mr Gerald David Terrey Wykes, of Dunholme, Lincolnshire, left estate valued at £2,023,130 gross, £1,754,130 net. He died intestate.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.J. Appleton and Miss J.A. Neill
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs E. Appleton, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and Julia, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs B.P. Neill, of Oadby, Leicestershire.

Mr D.B. Fleming-Jones and Miss A.D.M. Baker
The engagement is announced between Brett Fleming-Jones, RTR, eldest son of Lt Col and Mrs D.P. Fleming-Jones, of St Mary Bourne, Hampshire, and Amanda, younger daughter of Gp Capt and Mrs D.H.G. Baker, of Chirton, Wiltshire.

Mr P.R.C. Gee and Miss M.W. Dunn
The engagement is announced between Patrick, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robert Gee, of Llanllyr, Talsarn, Dyfed, and Miranda, daughter of the Reverend and Mrs Thomas Dunn, of Llanfihangel Crucorney, Gwent.

Mr D.J. Goodman and Miss H.C. Chadwick
The engagement is announced between David John, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Goodman, of Newbury, Berkshire, and Hilary Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Vivian Chadwick, of Linlithgow, West Lothian.

Mr R.A. Jupp and Miss S.J. Murphy
The engagement is announced between Richard Anthony, elder son of Mr and Mrs B.L. Jupp, of Ware, Hertfordshire, and Susan Jane, only daughter of Mrs J.H. and the late Mr L.A. Murphy, of Woomelang, Victoria, Australia.

Mr C.J. Mason and Miss J.C. Bradwell
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Lt Col and Mrs J.L. Mason, and Johanna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D.J. Bradwell, of Whirlow, Sheffield.

Mr C.A. Maynard and Miss H.A. Thomas
The engagement is announced between Charles Angus, son of Mr and Mrs C.W. Maynard, of Painswick, Gloucestershire, and Helen Anne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs L.J. Thomas, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

Mr M.J. Morton and Miss J.S. Anderson
The engagement is announced from Paris, between Michael, eldest son of Mr A.D. and Mrs P.E. Morton, and Jayne, only daughter of Mr R.A. and Mrs L.S. Anderson, both families of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Dr P.G.G. Richardson and Miss A.L. Krawiec
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mrs Dorothy Mary Richardson and the late Major John Christopher Guy Richardson, of Foutarabia Road, Battersea, London, and Anthea, eldest daughter of Dr Theodore John Krawiec and Mrs Patricia Lee Krawiec, of Suffield, Connecticut, USA.

Sub-Lieutenant R.E. Tall, RN and Miss A.E.E. Simpson
The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Commander and Mrs Jeffrey Tall, of Southsea, Hants, and Annabel, elder daughter of Commander and Mrs Richard Simpson, of Weymouth, Dorset.

Mr J.M.G. Toon and Miss S.D. Higgins
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Howard Toon, of Hathern, Leicestershire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Higgins, of Godalming, Surrey.

Mr C.H. Wheatman and Miss H.J. Peterson
The engagement is announced from Hong Kong, between Charles, only son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Wheatman, of Norwich, and Henrietta, middle daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Peterson, of Newdigate, Surrey.

Mr G.D.H. Whitaker and Miss L.P.W. Anderson
The engagement is announced between Giles, son of Col and Mrs David Whitaker, of Chawton, Hampshire, and Lucy, eldest daughter of the Rev James and Mrs Anderson, of Selborne, Hampshire.

Mr M.G. Williams and Miss F.C. Orford
The engagement is announced between Marcel Glyn, eldest son of Mr I. Williams, of Braintree, Essex, and Mrs L.M. Williams, of Fontenay-aux-Roses, France, and Fiona Catherine, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.C. Orford, of Budleigh Salterton, Devon.

Marriage

The Viscount Weir and Mrs M. Sevastopoulo
The marriage took place quietly in Ayr on Friday, of The Viscount Weir, eldest son of the late Viscount and the late Viscountess Weir of Montgreenan, Kilwinning, and Marina, daughter of the late Marc Sevastopoulo and of Mrs Marc Sevastopoulo, of 1150 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Birthdays

TODAY: Major Nicholas Barne, royal equerry, 46; Lord Devlin, 84; Mr Francis Durbridge, playwright and author, 77; Sir Cosmo Haskard, former governor, Falkland Islands, 73; Miss Daisy Hyams, former managing director, Tesco, 77; Mr Dickie Jeeps, former rugby player and former chairman, Sports Council, 58; Mr Wilhelm Kempff, pianist and composer, 94; Mr Imran Khan, cricketer, 37; Dr Elizabeth Laverick, electrical engineer, 64; Sir Fergus Montgomery, MP, 62; Mr Tony Neary, rugby player, 41; Mr K.J. O'Keeffe, cricketer, 40; Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne, 74; Mr Richard Seifert, architect, 79; Sir John Summerson, CH, architectural historian, 85; Lord Tweedsmuir, 78; Mr Bernard Weatherill, MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, 69; Mr Peter Wright, director, Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, 63; Dame Elizabeth Yarwood, former Lord Mayor of Manchester, 89; Miss Priscilla Young, social worker, 64.

TOMORROW: Major-General Sir John Acland, 61; Sir Richard Acland, former MP, 83; Professor Margaret Boden, philosopher and psychologist, 53; Dr Cyril Cusack, actor, 79; Sir Alan Dalton, former chairman, English China Clays, 66; Mr Geoffrey Drain, trades unionist, 71; Sir Sidney Eburne, former Senior Crown Agent, 71; Lord Forte, 81; the Earl of Gowrie, 50; Sir Patrick Graham, former High Court judge, 83; Mr John Gummer, MP, 50; Mr R.W. Hamilton, former Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, 84; Professor Sir Harry Hinsley, former master, St John's College, Cambridge, 71; Vice-Admiral Sir James Kennon, 64; Lord McFadzean of Kelvinside, 74; Mr John Moore, MP, 52; Lord Rathcreedan, 84; Mr Charles Schulz, cartoonist, 67; Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, 66; Mrs Barbara Switzer, trades unionist, 49; Miss Tina Turner, singer, 51.

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births; Lope de Vega, dramatist, Madrid, 1562; Charles Kemble, actor-manager, Brecon, 1775; Andrew Carnegie, iron and steel manufacturer and philanthropist, Dunfermline, 1835; Angelo Roncalli, Pope John XXIII 1958-63, Sotto il Monte, 1881; Nikolai Vavilov, plant geneticist, Moscow, 1887.

Deaths, Edward Alleyn, actor-manager, London, 1626; Isaac Watts, hymn writer, London, 1748; Sir Francis Chantrey, sculptor, London, 1841; Sir Augustus Callcott, landscape painter, London, 1844; Heinrich Barth, explorer in Africa, Berlin, 1865; Lilian Baylis, founder of the Old Vic, London, 1937; Dame Myra Hess, pianist, London, 1965; Upton Sinclair, novelist, Bound Brook, New Jersey, 1968; Yukio Mishima, writer, Tokyo, 1970.

The Flood (Genesis 6.9) is said to have begun on this day, 2348 BC.

TOMORROW: Births, Sir James Ware, antiquary, Dublin, 1594; William Cowper, poet, Great Berkhamstead, Herts, 1731; George Forster, explorer, Nassenhuben, Poland, 1754; William Armstrong, Baron Armstrong, inventor, Newcastle, 1810; John Alexander Newlands, chemist, London, 1837; Sir Henry Coward, musician, Liverpool, 1849; Sir Aurel Stein, archaeologist, Budapest, 1862.

Deaths, Nicolaus Steno, geologist, Schwerin, Germany, 1686; John Elwes, miser, Marcham, Berks, 1789; John McAdam, inventor of the road surface bearing his name, Moffat, Dumfriesshire, 1836; George Dobson, zoologist, West Malling, Kent, 1895; Coventry Patmore, poet, Lymington, Hants, 1896; Sir Leander Jameson, leader of the abortive raid (1895) into the Transvaal, London, 1917; Cyril Connolly, critic, London, 1974.

Service of Thanksgiving

Mr J.R. Tovell
University College London
A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr J.R. Tovell was held yesterday in the University Church of Christ the King, London WC1. The address was given by Lord Annan, and the lessons were read by Sir James Lighthill and Mr D.V. Bowles.
Among those present were:
Mr and Mrs R. Malle (brother-in-law and sister), Mr and Mrs S.R. Riches (brother-in-law and sister), Mr and Mrs T. Murray (son-in-law and daughter), Miss Emma Sardelli (granddaughter), Mr Riccardo Sardelli (grandson), Mr Christopher Malle (nephew).
Dr D H Roberts (Provost, University College London); Professor R Audley and Professor D V I Fatt-wather (Vice-Provosts); Mr P Hotwell (Principal, University of London); Professor A G Alexander, Professor and Mrs H Billett, Professor L H Brown, Professor F W Bullock, Professor R K Butcher, Professor W I Butler, Professor J H Calloway, Professor J G A Croll, Professor J L Cullinane, Professor J McN Dodgson, Professor P Dunnill, Professor D W James, Professor H Mahler, Professor M L McGlashan, Professor D J Millen, Professor Karl Miller, Professor and Mrs J W Mullin, Professor P M Rolland, Professor J H La Richelle, Professor P A Riley, Professor S Zeki, and Major-General I H Baker (Secretary of the College).

Dinners

Royal Marines Association
Lieutenant-General Sir Steuart and Lady Pringle were the hosts at the annual dinner of the City of London branch of the Royal Marines Association held last night at the City of London unit of the Royal Marines Reserve, Bermondsey. Music was provided by the Drum Corps of The Royal Marines School of Music, Deal.

Kitchener Scholars' Association
Earl Kitchener of Khartoum presided at the annual dinner of the Kitchener Scholars' Association held last night at the Charing Cross Hotel. The principal guest was Sir Ian Percival.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:
Rear Admiral J W D Cook, Mr E A Crowe, Mr K H Stevens and Mr R S Tindle to be deputy lieutenants of Surrey.

Service dinners

Midland Naval Officers' Association
Rear-Admiral J.P. Edwards, President of the Midland Naval Officers' Association, presided at a dinner held last night at the Council House, Birmingham.
Among those present were:
The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, the American Naval Attache, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, Vice-Admiral Sir Jork Slater, Commodore M H P Frame and Commander A J D Sommerville.

HMS Broadsword 1959 Commission
Vice-Admiral Sir Alan Grose, Flag Officer Flotilla Three, presided, at a reunion dinner held last night on HMS Ark Royal in Portsmouth to mark the anniversary of the 1959-1961 commission of HMS Broadsword Captain and Mrs K.H. Martin were guests of honour.

Not Under Command Club
Admiral Sir Brian Brown, Second Sea Lord, was the principal guest at the annual supper of the Not Under Command Club held last night in HMS Royal Arthur. Commander S.N. Robertson, chairman of the club, presided.

HQ No 1 Group RAF
Air Chief Marshal Sir Patrick Hine, AOC-in-C Strike Command, was the guest of honour at a dinner held last night at RAF Upavon by Air Vice-Marshal R.A.F. Wilson and Officers of HQ No 1 Group RAF to mark the departure of the Air Transport Staffs to HQ Strike Command. Wing Commander B.C. Dickens presided.

Royal Marines

The following young officers passed out at the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines on November 10:

Second Lieutenants: C S H Alexander (Gordonstoun School), M V Baker (Southampton University), J M Beach (Portsmouth 6th Form College), N M Bennett (Keele University), S P Birrell (De La Salle College), C R Boyd (Methodist College, Belfast), S A Brend (Melbourne University), C I M Dixon (Exeter University), M L S Hales (Bedstone College), M J Holmes (Exeter University), D J S Hewitt (Durham University), D C M King (Plymouth Polytechnic), J R C Main (Aberdeen University), M F Pierson (Felsted School), R M Tompkins (UWIST), J G Ward (Plymouth College), L Dzou, Cameroon Navy.

Lieutenant S P Yeo, Singapore Armed Forces.

Awards: Sword of Honour: 2Lt D C M King; Runner-Up: 2Lt J R C Main; Commandant's Prize: 2Lt J G Ward; Commandant's Essay Prize: 2Lt M J Holmes.

IS YOUR CHRISTMAS HARD FOR THEM TO SWALLOW?

Every year, millions of animals suffer and die in experiments in British laboratories. Over 300,000 in product 'poison' tests alone.
Will you be contributing to this cruelty by wearing cosmetics, giving gifts, or taking drugs to ease the morning after feeling? You don't have to.
Write to us for our list of products without the suffering of laboratory animals.

THE NATIONAL ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY

☐ Please send me ..... copy(ies) of your Cruelty-Free Products List @ 75p T/I
☐ Please send me your Christmas Catalogue
☐ Information pack
☐ I enclose a donation towards your work
Name _____
Address _____

The National Anti-Vivisection Society, 51 Harley Street, London W1N 1DD
CHRISTMAS CATALOGUE HOTLINE: 01-631 0612

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

We are not like so many others who handle God's message as if it were cheap merchandise; but because God has sent us we speak with sincerity in his presence.
2 Corinthians 2 : 17

BIRTHS

BLACKETT - On Thursday November 23rd 1989, to Simon and Geva, a daughter, Eve.

BOSE - On Friday November 24th 1989, at Hammersmith Hospital, to Kalpana and Mihir, a lovely daughter.

CROSSLEY - On November 20th, to Sue and Robert, a son, Alec James Norval.

GEORGE - On November 11th 1989, to Valerie (née Griffiths) and Nicholas, a son, Daniel Leonard, a brother for Cara.

PLIMSOLL - On November 21st 1989, in London, to Belinda (née Jones) and Brian, a son, James Peter.

REVELL - On November 23rd 1989, to Josie (née Smith) and Stuart, a son, Alexander James.

SPENCER ELLIS - On November 21st 1989, in Banbury, to Paul and Jan, a daughter, Seren Alexandra, a sister for Gwilym. Always remembering Hywel.

SWARBRICK - On November 4th, to Louise (née Hopewell) and Andy, a son, Joshua William, another brother for James, Thomas, Joseph and Henry.

TROGDEN - On November 20th, to Marie (née Denivelle) and Sandy, a son, Alastair.

WAREHAM - On Saturday November 18th 1989, at Burton District Hospital, Staffordshire, to Buffy (née Barnett) and Quintin, a son, Henry Maximilian, a brother for Edward and George.

MARRIAGES

TILLEY:FRASER - The wedding took place on Friday November 3rd at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Withington, Glos., between Giles E. Tilley Esq., only son of Mr and Mrs W.B. Tilley of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, and Miss Dawn M. Fraser, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Fraser, Belfast, N. Ireland. The couple who met in India returned for their honeymoon.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

PEACOCK:OSBORN - On November 25th 1939 at Fulham, London, Robert to Phyllis. Now at Ramsgate, Kent. *Love from sons, Alan and Roger.*

SIZER:EDWARDS - Geoffrey de Courcey to Keturah (Kil) on November 25th 1939 at Holy Trinity Church, Mossford Green, Essex.

DEATHS

ARMAN - On November 23rd 1989, Mabel Florence, at home in Halifax. Widow of the late Robert Arman, formerly of Palmer's Green, London. Enquiries for the funeral arrangements to Lawrence Funeral Directors, tel: (0422) 354094.

BANKS - On November 23rd, Eric Peter, aged 88 years. Husband of Mabel and father of David and Terence. No letters or flowers, but donations to Chichester Cathedral Chorister's Scholarship Fund. Funeral private.

BEAUMONT - On November 22nd, peacefully in a Bournemouth nursing home, Mary Helen, formerly of 29 Parkwood Road, Bournemouth. Much loved sister of Gertrude. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Boscombe, on Friday December 1st at 11.45 am. Cremation following at Bournemouth. Flowers or donations for Church Army for the Elderly may be sent to The Brian Wilton Funeral Home, 156 Tuckton Road, Bournemouth. tel: (0202) 428536.

BUCKLEY - On Wednesday November 22nd 1989, peacefully at Winchester Hospital, David Esmond. Loving husband of Jan, beloved father of Marriele, *Elsa and Helen and dear* grand-father. Funeral Service at St Lawrence Church, The Square, Winchester 12 noon Thursday November 30th. Family flowers only. Donations *please to* Cancer Research, c/o John Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

CLERY - On November 23rd 1989, peacefully, Ruby Alexandra, beloved daughter of the late Mr & Mrs Lumley Clery. Enquiries to Pennington Solicitors, Clement House, 99 Aldwych, London WC2B 4LJ, tel: 01-242 4422 (Ref LJL).

COSTELLO - On November 21st 1989, in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Anthony John. Dearly loved husband of Debbie. Funeral will be held at Cambridge City Crematorium on Tuesday November 28th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Sister Dodds, John Farman Intensive Care Unit, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge CB2 2QQ.

GORDON - On Thursday November 23rd 1989, peacefully at his home, Ronald James Robertson (RJR), Arkle, Glebe Road, Nairn, Scotland. Husband of Bunty Barker and father of John, Ronald, Neil and Peter. Funeral Service at Nairn Old Parish Church on Monday November 27th at 10.30 am. Thereafter private. Family flowers only please.

GUILD - On November 23rd 1989, Norma, at peace and at rest. Much loved by family and friends. Memorial Service St George's Church, St George's Road, Kemptown, Brighton, Tuesday November 28th at 2 pm. Donations please to St George's Church Restoration Fund, Father James Lovatt, 33 Eaton Place, Brighton.

HENRIQUES - On November 23rd, suddenly and peacefully at home, Adam Quixano, dearly loved by Silvia and all his family. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium at 2.30 pm on Wednesday November 29th. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Abbeyfield Society or West London Special Care Baby Unit.

HOLLIDAY - On November 20th, *peacefully* at Petersfield, Portishead, Ivy May (née Alford Smith), widow of George Craven, caring mother and grandmother of Vivien, Nicola, Tamsin and Jeremy. Enquiries to F.H. Halliday & Son, Funeral Directors, telephone: (0272) 842120.

JOHNSTONE - On November 24th 1989, at her home Amisfield Tower, by Dumfries, Mary Howard Johnstone (née Marriner), dearly loved wife of the late Major James L. Johnstone, dear mother of Andrew and William and grandma of Emma and James. Service at St John's Church, Dumfries, on Wednesday November 29th at 1.30 pm. Interment thereafter at Tinwald Churchyard. All friends respectively invited to attend. no letters please.

MULLER - On November 23rd, Ervin, of Leukaemia. Funeral on Wednesday November 29th 1989 at Beckenham Crematorium at 10.30 am. No flowers please.

PANTON - On November 22nd, at home, after a long illness gallantly fought, Audrey Mary, beloved wife of Frank and mother of Christopher and Timothy. Service at Barham Crematorium, Canterbury, 12 noon, Thursday November 30th. Flowers to Lyons, Funeral Directors, Military Road, Canterbury.

RAPHAEL - On November 24th, Peggie Rosina (née Cohen), 81. Widow of her beloved George and dear mother of Christopher. Mother-in-law of Pamela and grandmother of Carhan. Funeral at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, on Friday December 1st at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Cancer Research *Campaign, 2 Carlton House* Terrace, London SW1.

REID - On November 23rd 1989, peacefully in a nursing home, aged 88 years, Rosina Mary, much loved wife of the late Cyril Reid, formerly of Fangfoss, York. Devoted mother and grandmother. Enquiries: (0299) 270420.

SANDERS - On November 21st, suddenly at home, Winifred Mary, aged 86. Widow of Harold Martin Sanders, Priest; dear mother of David and proud and devoted grandmother and great-grandmother. After private cremation a Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held in St Swithun's Church, Combe, Berks., on Saturday December 2nd 1989 at 11.30 am. All enquiries to Camp Hopson's Funeral Director. Tel: Newbury (0635) 523523.

SYMONDS - On November 20th 1989, peacefully at home, Norah Eleanor, much loved wife of the late Steuart Symonds and mother of Vivien. Service at Yeovil Crematorium on Wednesday November 29th at 3 pm. *Family flowers only.*

TURNER - On Friday November 24th, peacefully in his sleep at The Royal Sussex County Hospital, Alfred Charles, late of Saltdean. Much loved husband and father of May and Donald. Funeral Service at The Downs Crematorium, Bear Road, Brighton, on Thursday November 30th at 2 pm. Donations to St Peter's Brighton Choral Foundation or flowers may be sent to E. Carter & Son, 20 Marine Drive, Rottingdean.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

DRAKE - Nick remembered always will love.

DRAKE, Nick. As winter enters and we go into the dark time you are always there.

MULLER - On November 25th 1972, John. A much loved father and grandfather. David, Margaret, Joanna, Sarah and Dugal. Primus inter Pares.

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.
For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00 pm Mon-Thurs, 4pm Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Sat for Monday's paper.
01 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLIN R RICE's location needed. Reward for effective information. Call James 680 5467.

D. CAUDWELL who purchased fields Santols Menorca 1970. Last known Pindock Mews, London. Write Apartado 638 Mahon, Menorca.

FENWICK. Will Doctor Carolyn Fenwick, formerly of 15 Gold Street, Hanslope, Bucks, and later of 54 Tranlands Brigg, Milton Keynes, please communicate as soon as possible with The Publications Officer, The British Academy, 20/21 Cornwall Terrace, London, NW1 4QP.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

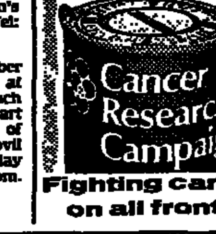
TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD. Recommend that before replying to any advertisement in these columns, please take all normal precautionary measures, as Times Newspapers Ltd. cannot be held responsible for any action or loss resulting from an advertisement carried in these columns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREATER LONDON FUND FOR THE BLIND

Thousands of people can't read this ad., because they're blind. We can't give them back their sight, but we can help in many other ways. So please, help us to see to their needs, by providing a donation, covenant or legacy. Greater London Fund for the Blind, Room 8A, Freepost 3, London, W1E 1EZ. Tel: 01-262 0191 or 01-723 1677. Regd. No. 240586

We fund one third of all research into the prevention and cure of cancer in the UK.
Help us by sending a donation or making a legacy to: TT/25/11 2 Carlton Hse Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.



Fighting cancer on all fronts.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUNKBEDS, red tubular, 3' wide with mattresses & ladder. £60.00. Tel:0272 736852.

BURLEIGH: Happy Birthday Mum and Dad with love Charlotte and Stuart xxx.

CD Walkman, nearly new, price negotiable. Phone S. Kamp 01-387 0511 (message only).

CLARINET, B flat, student. Excellent condition, £120. Evenings Tel: 0329 280353 (Fareham).

CLOVER Fernandez, a very happy 21st birthday, love Sam, Jacqueline and Caroline.

COLOUR COMP: CPC464, Prntr, Disc-Drive, S/ware, Cost £1800. Only £300. 01 806 6461

COTTAGE, rural, 2 bed, grdn, V. attrac intr, rural views, £89950 Wartingham [illegible]

DANIEL. Happy 1st Birthday, Nov 7th '89. Stephen, Grandma, Grandad, Grt Granma.

DOLLY - The great female ever to live. I love you. Graham.

ENGINEERING student requires f/t employment during Hols. S.E. Scotland. (0506) 855792.

FIFI Orang-Utang. Happy Birthday! Now you're almost my age. Yippee! love Pedro Gorilla.

FLATSHARE professional female wanted. £80pw exclusive, London N2. Tel: 01 365 3762.

FOR SALE. Javea villa. 4 dbl beds, 3 bathrms, pool, beach 15 km. Tel: 010-3465 771868.

FOR SALE, Volvo 340GL, excellent condition, average mileage, taxed, MOT. Cardiff 626909.

G.C.S.E. Exam papers and text books for sale. Many subjects. Tel: 01-961 2755.

HAPPY Birthday Dad, lots of love Jem.

HAPPY Birthday Anne, I love you, xxx, Ashley.

HAPPY Birthday Alison, Jo, Sarah and Funky Chicken, best wishes, love Ben.

HAPPY Congratulations to Baron Computers Ltd on a successful year ahead.

HAPPY FIRST Birthday to Donna-Dean Evadney May Bailey, from Aunt Juliet.

HAVING a party in Newcastle? Sarah and Edwina will clear up.(091) 281 5048

HELP! Cambridge undergraduate desperate to write about soccer as career. Tel: (0223) 328484.

HOMMER Jack bms, Peavey cab, Laney amp, never played. £500, Huddersfield 428109

HONDA MT50 - 'E' registered. Superb condition. £445 ono. Derby 676308 evenings.

HOUSE for sale £68,000. Select area of Wolverhampton. Tel: 0902 745725.

ITALIAN Lang, music and culture courses in Florence. For info: tel (0784) 435739.

LANGUAGES Graduate, Accounts exp. seeks office work in ski resort. 01 995 8544.

LILI YUNG, Happy 21st Birthday for Wednesday love Mum, Margaret, Anna

M.A. Agricultural Economics Graduate seeks employment in Northern Ireland 0762) 881576

MACDONALD, Anna Happy Birthday on Christmas day love Mum, Dad and Jamie.

MARTIN, merci pour les six mois. Plus tard peutetre. Ton petit amour.

MINI Clubman Estate 1981 (Aug) Mot'd Sept.1990. Ex cond. £1,050. Tel (091) 5686302.

MINI COOPER MkII 1967, super condition, full MOT. Phone Phil 0793 762581.

MINOLTA X-300 50mm SLR camera. Flash, accessories, carrying case. £90. (0282) 33440.

MINOR Convertible. '69. MOT. Tax. Offers. Tel: 0444 450880.

MITSUBISHI Starion turbo. black. Y reg. pvte reg. superb. £600 stereo. £3,490. 0904 784265.

MINI Mini Auto for restoration. MOT. Orig. recent recond'd engine. £350. (0527) 86571.

MONTEGO 1.6 L A Reg. Tax. M.O.T. May '90. Gold. £1,800. Tel: 0454 415332.

NEC Videorecorder. £190. Also IBM XT-compat. EGA, 32MB hard disk. £950. 01-370 5965.

NW1 *Young Prof. to share period* hse off Camden Sqr. Huge own bdrm. £80pw. 01 485 7990.

OBOE B&H Regent vgc. Ideal for beginner-£200. T. Scarborough 367441 after 6pm.

OLD-RYDIANS London Reunion. Thurs 7th December. Phone Steve: 01 748 2664.

PAMELA Edwards Belated Birthday Greetings. Congratulations on B.A. 'You've Survived' Liam

PEUGEOT 205-GLD 1986 (F), red, 5-dr hatchback. For college fees £5990. Tel: 01 836 2057.

PIANO - Upright good condition, regularly tuned, buyer collects, £350 ono. 0734 404411.

PLATH, Sylvia, first edition, The Colossus and Other Poems, wanted. Tel: 0285 886859.

PYKE Katharine. Happy 21st Birthday Love Mum, Dad, Christine, Stephen and Ben.

RALEIGH Ranger, girls bicycle. Very good condition. Suit age 8+. £30 O.N.O. (0705) 821730.

ROBOT: Talks/patrols home. value £1250. Offers invited. Tel: 0272 322125.

RON Prickett, Canvey Island. Oiled the wheels in October. Congratulations. Tweedledum

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

RUSSIA. Info sought about Alexandra Feodorovna, last Empress & children (0604) 66201

SAPPHIRE and Diamond Ring, Superb Quality. Brand new. £1600 ono.(0223) 336196.

SARAH, Happy 21st Birthday, love from Sue, Boris and Henry Le Skunk!

SECOND HAND Trombone for sale. Good condition. £100 or nearest offer. 01-440 1062.

SIMON I hope you liked the tie. Happy Birthday. Love always. S.

STUDENT requires Christmas work in Coventry, D.L. held. Mark Pill. (0222) 220362.

TEMP available Christmas period Stockport area. Anything considered. Tel: 0742 668806 (eve)

TOYOTA SUPRA 2.8L 84(A), metallic blue, every extra: Alpine syst. £5,998. Tel: 0273 603244

UNO 45S. 5spd, 3d/hatch low mls v. economical, ex cond. TXT £3,100 ono 01-667 3540 days

WANTED: recording of "The Archers" of sunday 11th November. Please Tel (0762) 881576.

WANTED, Pat Benatar Memorabilia. Write to D Parker, 58 Lowther Rd, Brighton BN16LH.

WEIDER Olympian weight set. Many extras. Immac condition. £60 ono. Petersfi 692007.

"Where's me glasses?!" Happy 80th Birthday Dad! Congratulations and love from Halden.

YACHTING. Is available for crewing this summer. M. Richards Gordonstoun, Moray IV30 2RF.

YAMAHA DX100 Synthesiser £135 ono. Exchange for racing bike. Jon (0902) 606277

BIRTHDAYS

CAPSTICK - *Happy Birthday* Fiona, born on this day 1969, love Philip & Christina.

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A.H. BALDWIN & SONS LTD. Est. 1872. Coins and medals. Collections or specimens bought for cash. Adelphi Terrace, London, WC2N 6BJ. Tel: 01-930 6879.

ALL BLACKS v. Barbarians tickets wanted. Top prices. Call Fiona 0800 378353 (office hours only)

GEORGIAN/VICTORIAN Dining tables, chairs and large bookcases required. Tel. 01-603 1636. 24 hrs answering.

WANTED desperately Julie Andrews tickets, 11th December. (0903) 815936.

WAR LETTERS. From British Servicemen on active service since 1900; 14-18, 39-45, Suez, Falklands, etc for possible publication. Reply to BOX C12

WOULD any retired motorist with an old car he would consider selling to a semi-retired enthusiast. Please Tel 01-998 6120.

WANTED

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FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE

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MINK Dark Ranch waist jacket, immaculate. Valued £1000 size 14/16. £525ono 0905 757877.

MINK Coat attractive & beautiful cond. Length 40" valued £1200 asking £600ono. 0788 813483.

MINK black gama ¾ coat, quality female skins. size 14/16. as new. £1150. 0229 869 689.

NEW Grey/black fox trim, mink coat, never worn cost £2000 accept £1200. 0742 486402.

OLD & NEW York, French & Pennat stone Flagstones, floor tiles, stone troughs, cobble setts, etc. Nationwide deliveries. Tel: (0380) 850039 (Wilts)

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SOFAS - 2 Brand new handmade 7 ft sofas, upholstered, self patterned fabric, white and pink, feather/down, original price each £2,400 will sell for £1,400 each. Tel. (0732) 882552.

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THIS XMAS give an original newspaper dated the day they were born. £16. (+ free 1860's Times!). (0492) 531195.

TICKETS for Phantom, Miss Saigon. Theatres and all sporting events. Credit cards. Tel: 01-225 1338/9. (T).

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CHALLEN grand, exc cond, tuned regularly, walnut finish, move forces sale £1400 01-947 0239.

KEMBLE baby grand piano good clean cond. & in polished walnut. £1800ono 025485 2385.

PIANO Grd 5ft JJ Hopkinson full size Key/natural rosewood beautiful tone £2600 0883 853223

PIANO'S for sale Piano Workshop, 58 Preston Rd, Brighton. Tel: 0273 571208 UK deliver.

PIANOS DIRECT for quality older instruments from £575 & £950, guaranteed, overhauled inc carriage, tuning. And the cream. Dealers welcome. List (0753) 867127.

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

AM looking for one of those beautiful younger women up to 44 who actually prefer older men because they are often more urbane, kind, responsible, experienced, unmortgaged, have their own yachts and can afford to spoil a worthwhile woman who likes countryside, sailing in Summer, travelling in Europe in Autumn, tropics in Winter, dining out, fireside, dogs, etc. Am 60, 5 ft 7 ins, fit, energetic, adventurous, virile, have own business, live on south coast beside the water. My family are grown up and I would like a permanent, happy relationship with a woman who combines humour, honour and kindliness with good looks and agility and doesn't smoke. Please write with photo to BOX C45.

ARE you an attractive, interesting gentleman, very intelligent, humorous and affectionate, who would like to meet slim, charming, widow, 50's, with many interests and who keeps meeting the wrong person. London area. Reply to BOX C63

ARE you male, single over 30 and alone at New Year? Then come and join the ladies at one of our special weekend venues. Club Plus One 01-376 0319/0323

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GENT EARLY 50's 6 feet tall would like to meet woman of substance of similar age or older interested in cinema and theatre. Photograph essential. Reply to BOX C79

GLOS/OXON Lady, late 30's, seeks gentleman 40-46, who is warm-hearted, sensitive, sincere and intelligent, to share the good things in life. Photo please. Reply to BOX C53

HAPPY Christmas/New Year to a successful, cultured, caring gentleman (40 - 55) who spends weekdays in town, weekends in the country. Must be free and able to share good lifestyle, friends and many blessings with a nice, independent, compatible lady. Letter with photo please to BOX C46

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INDEPENDENT Male, 60's, seeks female partner. UK/EEC, retirement project. Interests music, theatre, ski-ing, swimming, furnishing, gardening, languages. Exciting, creative challenge. Reply to BOX C74

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LOVELY warm, caring American professional lady. Intelligent, humorous, varied interests, aged 44, energetic! Seeks kind, humourous, financially independent man, 35 to 50 who enjoys talking and solving problems in relationships, travelling and theatre. Reply to BOX C69

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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ONE MINUTE SR. accountant/ nat therapist seeks non smoker to share his flat, leisure complex, swimming etc. lge room. £75pw. 01-585 3448.

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3. Julia Thomas
Fund in connection with former St. Michael's Convalescent Home of the Community of St. Andrew
The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them (ref: 244321 A/1-LA) at St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX. Objections and suggestions may be sent to them within one month from today.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
No. 007032 of 1989
IN THE MATTER OF MB GROUP PLC
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 9th day of November, 1989 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr. Justice Harman at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2 2LL on Monday, the 4th day of December, 1989.

ANY CREDITOR or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the under-mentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated 25th of November 1989
Allen & Overy,
9 Cheapside,
London EC2V 6AD
Ref: DWS/D:DWSB
Solicitors for the said Company

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

McBAIN, KENNETH GEORGE, 43 Compayne Gardens, London, NW6, died 22nd April, 1989; particulars to Harbottle & Lewis, Solicitors, Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square, London, W1R OBE, before 26th January 1990.

REITH, MARGARET HUGHINA of 72 Richmond Road, Leytonstone, London E11 died on 17th June 1989; particulars to Geo. J. Dowse & Co., Solicitors of 23/25 Dalston Lane, London E8 3DF before 31st January 1990.

BERRIDGE, MINNIE LOUISE of 25 Penge House, 2 Wye Street, London SW11 died on 1st June 1989; particulars to Bryan O'Connor & Co., Solicitors of 18-20 Southwark Street, London SE1 1TS before 26th January 1990.

LEWIS, Tony of Flat 3, 26 Marylebone High Street, London, W.1. died on 15th January 1989; particulars to Tringhams, Solicitors of 26 Dorset Street, London, W1M 3FU before 26th January 1990.

KULAKIEWICZ Jacob of 29 Spencer Road, Herne Hill, London, SE24 died on 1st June, 1988; particulars to S. Jaque Esq. Heald Nickinson, Solicitors of 48 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3DS before 31st January, 1990.

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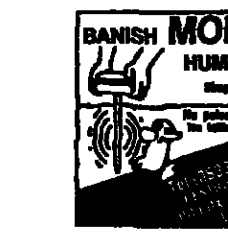

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ON THIS DAY

NOV 25 — 1927

During the first two decades of the century, Sir Harry Lauder (1870-1950) was as often as not top of the bill on the variety stage. Like a number of his fellow artistes he was adept at switching from the comic song to the sentimental ballad.

SIR HARRY LAUDER AND EDINBURGH

FREEDOM OF CITY CONFERRED

(From Our Correspondent)

Edinburgh Nov 21.

Sir Harry Lauder appeared in the kilt today, when he had the freedom of his native city, Edinburgh, conferred upon him in the presence of a crowded assemblage in the Usher Hall.

Lord Provost Stevenson, in presenting to Sir Harry the burgess ticket, enclosed in a silver casket, said the honour was conferred upon one of Edinburgh's own sons, whose wonderful gift of song and lovable personality, with its humour, geniality, and pawkiness had endeared him to countless admirers alike in the old world and the new.

He also made reference to Sir Harry Lauder's war services, when he inspired the troops by his songs and when he pleaded the Allies' cause in the United States. He had further succeeded in raising £100,000 as a fund to give maimed Scottish soldiers and sailors a fresh start in life.

Sir Harry Lauder, who had an enthusiastic reception, said it was a signal distinction to be thus honoured by one's own city. He recalled his early days in the mines at Hamilton, remarking that his hands were very soft now, but then they were harder than leather. This was the greatest hour of his life. He had never been so enthralled. He had been honoured at home and abroad, but this was the "grand finale".

He had promised the Lord Provost he would not sing at the ceremony, but he could not refrain from giving a little ditty called "Sing us a simple melody", and then apologized for having broken his promise "just a wee bittie".

In a brief allusion to the death of Lady Lauder, Sir Harry said that when everything seemed dark to him he turned on his own record of "The end of the road", and as he listened to himself singing, he said: "Well, old man, you will have to take your own advice," and so, he exclaimed, "I will go on to the end of the road."

At the luncheon which followed, Sir Harry Lauder regaled the company with many Scottish stories, and concluded his reply to the toast of his health by intimating a gift of a sum sufficient to provide a number of pensions for aged Edinburgh citizens, in order to perpetuate the name of Lady Lauder.

Over half a column was given to this news which today might be accorded a brief paragraph.

WESTMINSTER IN DARKNESS

ELECTRIC LIGHT FAILURE

There was sudden failure last night in the electric light supply in part of the Westminster area, and nowhere was the effect more startling than in the House of Commons. Lieutenant-Commander Kenworthy had just begun to follow the Foreign Secretary in the debate on disarmament shortly before 5.30 when the light suddenly and completely failed.

The House became a black well, full of a startled murmur and drifting forms. In a few seconds sparks of light sprang out here and there as members struck matches, and soon Lieutenant-Commander Kenworthy bowed over a precarious candle, was announcing his readiness to proceed.

The Speaker thought it wiser to adjourn, and members thoroughly enjoying the respite, trooped out.

The House of Lords, with only the candelabra shining on the ruby-coloured seats, looking magnificent and the whole building was transformed from a place of talk to an inspiring cathedral.

At 6.30 the lights appeared again and members scurried to their places, and the Speaker, on his return, found nothing unusual but a couple of candles still burning before the impassive figure of the Serjeant-at-Arms...

Church services for tomorrow

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Missa in honorem Sancti Dominici (Rubbra), Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), Rev Dr C A Lewis; 3.15 E, Responses (Ebdon), Walmisley in D, Like as the hart (Howells); 6.30 ES for West Bridge Deanery, The Dean.
YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Canon R Metcalfe; 11.30 M, Collegium Regale (Howells); 4 E, Murrill in E.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Responses (Smith); 10.30 M, Jubilate (Walton), Te Deum (Leighton), Ven G Cassidy; 11.30 HC, Missa Brevis (Kodaly), God be in my head (Radcliffe); 3.15 E, Stanford in B flat, Ascribe unto the Lord (Wesley), Canon P Price.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Tomkins), Turn back O man (Holst), Collegium Regale (Howells), Rev T Page; 11.15 Abbey Euch, Missa Bel'Amfitrit altera (Lassus), Canon C Semper; 3 E, Blair in B minor, Thou mastering me God (Harvey), Canon C Semper; 5.45 Organ Recital; 6.30 ES, Canon E James.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC; 11 Euch, Missa O Quam gloriosum (Victoria), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), Canon B Wellaston; 3 E, Blair in B minor, Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn), Canon P Penwarden.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 10.30 SM, Missa Brevis (Kodaly), Mirabilia testimonia tua (Palestrina), 12, 5.30, 7 SM; 2.30 Organ Recital; 3.30 V & B, Magnificat primi toni (Bevan), Jubilate Deo (Dering), Priere (Franck).
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 HM, Spatzen Messe (Mozart), Ave verum (Byrd), Fr M Jones.
CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, Greek Orthodox, Moscow Rd, W2: 9.30 M; 11 Divine Liturgy.
CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, Russian Orthodox, Ennismore Gdns, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

CATHEDRAL OF ST SAVVA, Serbian Orthodox, Lancaster Rd, W11: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.
THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, O where shall wisdom be found (Boyce), Rev M A Moxon.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11.15 M, Te Deum (Britten), Achieved is the glorious work (Haydn), Canon E James; 12.30 HC.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 8.30 HC; 11 MP & HC, Quoniam tu solus sanctus (Vivaldi), How lovely are the messengers (Mendelssohn), The Chaplain.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M; 12 HC, O quam metuendus est (Victoria), Lo God is here (Jackson), The Welsh Guards, The Chaplain.

LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL: 11.30 MP, Jesu joy of man's desiring (Bach), Rev F V A Boyse.

TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: 9.15 HC; 11 M, O Sapientia (Ramsey), The Chaplain.
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 HC; 11.15 HC, Collegium Regale (Howells), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré), The Master.

ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) WC2: 9, 12.15 HC; 11 M, Vaughan Williams in E, Jubilate (Bidwell), Blessed is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven (Purcell), Rev W J D Sirr.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Sumsion in G, Praise the Lord ye servants (Blow), Rev J Wallis; 3.30 E, Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Walmisley in B flat, Praise the Lord my soul (Wesley).
ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11 S Euch, Rev R Dinos.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 8.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa Brevis (Kodaly), Worthy is the Lamb (Handel), Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh; 6 E & B, Harwood in A flat, O how glorious is the kingdom (Harwood), Rev G A Reddington.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9.30 HC; 11 Communion Service, Mr David Turner; 6.30 Rev I Bentley.
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old Church Street, SW3: 8, 12 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, Rev J H L Cross; 6 E, Mr D N Royce.
CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA, SW3: 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev S Watson.
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 8.15 HC; 11 HM, Mass in C (Schubert), Lobet de Herrn (Bach), Canon R Greenacre.

HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road, SW7: 11 HC, Preb J T C B Collins; 6.30 Baptism & Confirmation Service, Rt Rev J Hughes.

HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road, SW7: 8.30, 12.05 HC; 11 MP, Rev Dr M Israel.

HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Street, SW1: 8.30, 12.10 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Rev K L Yates.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 M & Euch, Vaughan Williams in G, Be still my soul (Whitlock), Canon J Oates; 6.30 E, Responses (Clucas), Arnold in A, Remember now thy creator (Steggall), The heavens are telling (Haydn), Canon J Oates.

ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens, SW5: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, The Quiet Hour (Oldroyd), The saints in glory (Bach), Rev J Vine.
ST GEORGE'S, Bloomsbury, WC1: 10 Euch, Rev A Graham; 6.30 EP.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Short Service (Byrd), Ave verum (Elgar), The Rector.

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High St, WC2: 8, 12 HC; 11 MP, Rev P J Galloway; 6.30 EP, Rev G C Taylor.

ST JAMES'S, Muswell Hill, N10: 8 HC; 11 MP, Rev M Parker; 6.30 EP, Prof B Griffiths.
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch; 5.45 EP.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass in A (Franck), Panis Angelicus (Franck), Rev B Galloway; 6 E, Stanford in C, Thou wilt keep him (Wesley), Rev G Buckle.

ST JOHN'S, Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 8 HC; 10 Parish Euch with Sunday School, Rev T Hardin; 6.30 Evening Worship, Rev R Callaghan.

ST JOHN THE DIVINE, Vassall Rd, SW9: 8 LM; 10 HM, Ireland in C, Behold the Tabernacle of God (Harris), Fr Caddick; 4 E & B.

ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 8 HC; 9.30 Parish Communion; 11 S Euch, Missa Festiva (Peeters), O Salutaris (Stresting), Rev N Barry; 6.30 E, Rev A Walker.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, Byrd in four voices, Civitas Sancti tui (Byrd), Rev M Butchers; 6.30 E, Responses (Smith Naylor), The Spirit of the Lord (Elgar), Rev D Watson.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 10 Family Communion; 11 S Euch, Ley in E minor, Expectans expectavi (Wood), Rev T Devonshire Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 M, Responses (Rose), Te Deum (Leighton), Locus iste (Bruckner), Rev R Holloway; 12.15 HC.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Mr A Woollard; 11.30 MP, Rev M Harwood; 2.45 Chinese Service (EP), Rev Dr J Bennett; 6.30 EP, The Vicar.
ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington, W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, The Vicar; 11.15 M, The Vicar; 6.30 E, Rev N Payne.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM; 11 HM, Mass in C (Beethoven), Ave verum corpus (Mozart), Laudate Dominum (Mozart), Fr M Dynock; 6.15 E, Procession & B, Canticles in C (Stanford), Ave verum corpus (Elgar).
ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Euch, Mass in D (Dvorak), Ave Maris Stella (Grieg). Rev R McLaren; 6.30 Pre-Advent Carol Service.
ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 11 HC, Rev D C L Prior; 7 ES & HC, Rev J Crossley.
ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 M, Deliver us O Lord our God (Batten), Responses (Webber), Stainer in A, Lord let me know mine end (Greene), The Rector.
ST PAUL'S, Onslow Square, SW7: 10.30 Morning Service, Rev J A K Millar.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Communion Service in B flat (Stanford), Give the King thy judgements O Lord (Weelkes), Dignus est Agnus (Williamson), Canon R Symon.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Mass; 11 SM, Missa Brevis Sancti Johannis de Deo (Haydn), The King of Love (Bairstow), Fr D Tilyer.
ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner Street, SW3: 8 HC; 11 MP, Ireland in F, Lord let me know mine end (Greene), Rev D Littlefair; 6.30 E, Collegium Regale (Howells), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Rev K Yates.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Missa super Le Berger et La Bergere (Lassus), Locus iste (Bruckner), Ihr habt nun Traurigkeit (Brahms), Fr C Colven; 6 V & B.

THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 11 SM & B, Mass in D (Dvorak), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), O salutaris hostia (Sumsion), Tantum ergo sacramentum (Sumsion); 6 LM & B.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rt Rev Dr W J G McDonald; 3 Scottish Festival Service, Rt Rev Dr W J G McDonald; 6.30 Rev W A Cairns.
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 The Minister; 6.30 Rev J A M Dowswell.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 8, 10, 12, 4, 6 LM; 11 SM, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Tu Rex Gloriae (Gounod), O Rex Gloriae (Marenzio).

CHURCH OF OUR LADY, Lisson Grove, St John's Wood: 10.45, Missa Festiva (Peeters), Tollite Portas (Byrd).

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa Sancti Joseph (Albretschberger), Afferentur Regi Locus iste (Bruckner).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Nelson Mass (Haydn), Let all the world in every corner sing (Vaughan Williams), 12.30, *4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, Adoramus* te Christe (Clemens non Papa).
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: *11 SM, Mass* in A (Kaliwoda), Ascendens Christus (Handl).
ST MARY'S, Cadogan Street, SW3: 8.30, 10, 11 Mass in D Minor (Haydn), Laudate Dominum (Pitoni), O Bone Jesu (Palestrina), 12.15, 6.30.
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Kensington High Street, W8: 8.30, 10, 12.30, 6.30 LM; 11.15 SM, Mass in D flat (Goller), Tu rex Gloriae (Gounod), Christus Vincit (Worcester).
AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 11 Rev Ron F Allison.
CITY TEMPLE, Holborn, EC1: 11 Rev E Waugh; 6.30.
CHELSEA METHODIST CHURCH, King's Road, SW3: 11 Mrs Adele Birch; 6 Mr T Weallans.
HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 11 Rev L Griffiths; 6.30 Rev P Hoar.
KENSINGTON TEMPLE, (Charismatic), Notting Hill Gate, W11: 9, 11 Rev A Godson; 2.30 John Waller; 6.30 Rev A Godson.
REGENT SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN URC, Tavistock Place, WC1: 11 Rev Dr R Scopes; 6.30 Pilgrim's Praise.
SALVATION ARMY (Regent Hall), Oxford St W1: 11, 6.30, Major & Mrs John Hunt; 3 Musical Programme
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 HC, Rev R T Englund; 7 Festival of Welsh Hymns, Rev A Luff.
ST JOHN'S WOOD URC, NW8: 11 Rev W C McCrorie.
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 Morning Service, Rev P Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev Dr R J Tudor.

WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate,SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev Dr R T Kendall.

WESTMINSTER MEETING SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), 52 St Martins La WC2: 11, Meeting for worship.

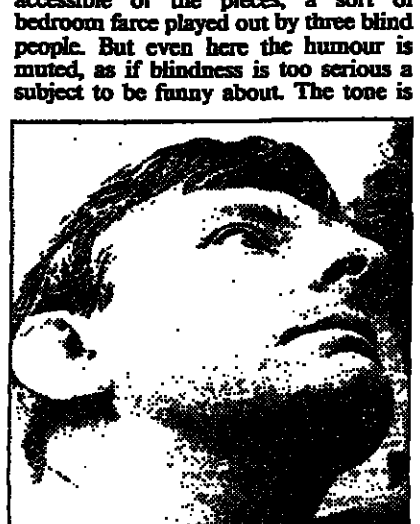
SATURDAY'S SCOTTISH TV AND RADIO

A fanfare for the disabled

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

● In his trilogy of short one-set plays, **Nobody Here But Us Chickens** (Channel 4, 9.00pm), Peter Barnes has set himself the tricky task of producing comic treatments of disability. His intention is "to celebrate the right of handicapped people not to be patronized". Comedy, in anything like its conventional sense, only really surfaces in the third and most accessible of the pieces, a sort of bedroom farce played out by three blind people. But even here the humour is muted, as if blindness is too serious a subject to be funny about. The tone is



Jack Shepherd: plays a mental patient pretending to be a chicken (Ch4, 9.00pm)

best illustrated by such sharp-edged lines as: "In medicine, where there's money there's hope". The actors are Janet Suzman, Stephen Rea and Norman Rodway and there are similarly strong casts for the other two pieces. In the first, Jack Shepherd and Daniel Massey are patients in a mental hospital. Confined to a bare, white-walled room, they pretend to be chickens and plot their revenge on the human race, for factory farming and other outrages. In the other play a third type of disability is represented by two spastic men (Michael Maloney and Nicholas Farrell) who are taking lessons from a judo instructor (David Suchet). Again the joke, if you can call it that, concerns a reversal of the expected roles. Again, too, the treatment is much darker than that of Peter Cook and Dudley Moore in their famous sketch on a similar theme about the one-legged actor who auditions for Tarzan.

● Bernard Levin opens his five-part series on New York, **A Walk Up Fifth Avenue** (Channel 4, 6.30pm), with the autobiographical reflection that if his emigrant Russian grandparents had carried out their original plan to cross the Atlantic he could have been an American. As it is, he is an Englishman observing the Americans, though he has been going to the Big Apple for 30 years and can tell us from experience that no one in Fifth Avenue ever saunters. After this personalized start, the programme settles into a television *Down Your Way*, taking in the street entertainers in Washington Square, the now graffiti-free subway and the wisdom of a millionaire who chooses to travel to work by motorcycle. New York may, as Levin contends, be full of surprises. If so, he has kept them for future programmes. Certainly, as Londoners know too well, Manhattan has no monopoly on beggars.

BBC 1

7.30 Saturday Starts Here! with Wayne Jackman and Ian Tregonning, starting with **Playbus** (r) **7.55** Laurel and Hardy characters in a cartoon *Train Strain* (r) **8.00 New Adventures of Mighty Mouse**

8.15 Eggs 'n' Baker. In this last programme of the series Cheryl Baker makes popcorn with her guests Big Fun, who also perform their latest single "Can't Shake the Feeling". There is also information about additives, and Cheryl makes an additive-free meal — fish fingers, tomato sauce and ice cream. Plus, from Switzerland, a guide to Swiss chocolates **8.35 Thundercats** (r)

9.00 Going Live with Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield. The guests include Jason Donovan, soul singer Sydney Youngblood, children's book author Anne Digby and violinist Nigel Kennedy **12.12 Weather**

12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): **12.20** and **4.25 Boxing:** Gary Jacobs meets Donovan Boucher at the Motherwell Civic Centre; **12.40, 1.10** and **1.45 Racing from Newbury; 12.55 News; 1.00** and **1.25 Rallying:** Steve Rider reports on the RAC Rally; **2.00 Rugby Union:** live coverage of the game at Twickenham between the Barbarians and the All Blacks; **3.45 Football:** half-times; **3.55 Snooker:** the Stormseal United Kingdom championship from the Guild Hall, Preston; **4.40 Final Score**

5.00 News with Moira Stuart. Weather

5.10 Scottish News and sport

5.15 The Flying Doctors: Friends and Lovers. The first of a new series revolving around life in the rural Australian community of Coopers Crossing. (Ceefax)

6.00 The Noel Edmonds Saturday Roadshow. This week's guests are Peter Snow, actor Peter Blake and comedian Joe Pasquale

6.45 Bob's Full House. Bingo quiz game (Ceefax)

7.20 Hearts of Gold. Esther Rantzen and Michael Groth talk to the young people secretly nominated by their family, friends and neighbours for their acts of bravery or kindness. (Ceefax)

8.00 Film: Escape to Victory (1981), starring Michael Caine, Sylvester Stallone and Daniel Massey. Second World War drama about an Allied prisoner-of-war who was once a professional footballer, who selects a team to challenge the German national side. Although they have no hope of winning, there is a slim chance that some of the players may make an escape. With 18 real-life football stars including Pele, Bobby Moore and Osvaldo Ardiles. Directed by John Huston. (Ceefax)

9.55 News and Sport. With Martyn Lewis. Weather

10.10 International Snooker. Action from the Stormseal UK Championship at the Guild Hall, Preston

10.30 Sportscene with Dougie Donnelly

11.40 Film: She's Dressed To Kill (1979) starring Eleanor Parker and Jessica Walter. A *haute couture* designer decides to make a comeback by launching her new collection at her remote mountain retreat. She invites top critics, photographers and models to the grand event but the celebrations turn to horror when, one by one, the guests start to disappear. Directed by Gus Trikonis.

1.15am Weather

Michael Caine: plays an ex-footballer in *Escape to Victory* (BBC1, 8.00pm)

SCOTTISH

6.00 TV-am begins with News and Saturday Sport presented by Geoff Clark. The guests include Barry Hearn **7.00 News; 7.30 WAC 90** for the young. With Tommy Boyd, Michaela Strachan and Shelaagh Ferrell

9.25 Motormouth 2 includes details of a competition to meet the stars of *Home and Away*; news of Richard Branson's attempt to cross the Pacific by hot-air balloon; and a visit to a wildlife hospital in Aylesbury. Plus music from Sonia, Bobby Brown's latest video and more from New Kids on the Block

11.30 The ITV Chart Show. Featured in this week's Vintage Video slot is Scottish band Deacon Blue

12.30 Saturday Night at the Movies presented by Tony Slattery (see 11.25pm)

1.00 News with Trevor McDonald. Weather **1.05 Scotland Today**

1.10 Saint & Greavsie. Jimmy Greaves and Ian St John preview today's football action and tomorrow's televised game between Arsenal and Liverpool

1.40 Sportsmasters. A quarter-final of the sports quiz. Dickie Davies is the questionmaster

2.10 Film: The War of the Worlds (1953) starring Gene Barry. Thrilling adaptation of H. G. Wells's classic story of a Martian invasion of Earth. Directed by Byron Haskin **3.45 Cartoon Time**

3.50 Coronation Street. A repeat of Wednesday's and Friday's episodes (r)

4.45 Results Service with Elton Welsby

5.00 News with Trevor McDonald. Weather

5.10 Scotland Today

5.15 Mission Juno - The First Briton in Space. From the thousands of Britons who applied to be the country's first astronaut, four were chosen. These three men and one woman have undergone intensive tests to determine which of them has the qualities necessary for such a demanding role, and today they will learn which of them will be the final two candidates — one of them to take part in the historic mission, the other acting as back-up. Meet the four hopefuls and find out exactly why they want to be part of this historic mission. Presented by Alistair Stewart and Anne Diamond live from the Science Museum in London

5.45 Catchphrase. Guessing game show hosted by Roy Walker. (Oracle)

6.15 Blind Date. Cilla Black brings another selection of couples together (Oracle)

7.05 The Royal Variety Performance 1989 from the London Palladium. Among those performing for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are veteran American comedian Jerry Lewis, the cast of *Coronation Street*, Tina Turner, Chris de Burgh, Sir John Mills, Michael Ball and the Northern Ballet Theatre

10.00 News with Trevor McDonald. Weather

10.20 Saracen: Reaper. This final episode in the series sees Barber and Duffy training a group of Arabs in anti-terrorist procedures when disaster strikes in the shape of a killer who infiltrates the safe house being used as the base for the operation. He then kidnaps Barber's son, Dominic, leaving the men from Saracen Systems to resolve a terrifying life-and-death situation. Starring Christian Burgess and Patrick James Clarke. (Oracle)

11.25 Saturday Night at the Movies presented by Tony Slattery. Includes a review of *Drugstore Cowboy* and an interview with actor-turned-director Ron Howard (r)

11.55 Film: The Little Drummer Girl (1984) starring Diane Keaton. A John le Carré thriller about an American actress in London who is persuaded to spy for the Israelis. Directed by George Roy Hill

2.15am The Hit Man and Her. Pete Waterman and Michaela Strachan with disco news and music

4.15 Coach. Comedy series about an American high school football coach

4.40 America's Top Ten (r)

5.05 ITN Morning News with Richard Bath. Ends at **6.00**

GRAMPIAN

As Scottish except: **2.10pm-3.50 Film: Bachelor of Hearts 11.55-2.15am Film: Twilight's Last Gleaming**

BBC 2

9.00 Open University: Oxford Union Debate **9.25** The First Year — How OU Students Coped **9.50** Suite Dreams **10.15** Science Preparatory Maths: Algebra

10.30 Holiday Outings. John Lloyd visits Monument Valley in Arizona (r)

10.40 Film: Trottie True (1948, b/w) starring Jean Kent. Despite her family's intense opposition, a young girl's dreams of joining a music hall and becoming a Gaiety Girl come true. On stage she is spotted by an aristocrat who starts to woo her. Directed by Brian Desmond Hurst.

12.15 The Wild Side of Town. Chris Baines explores the *Meadows of Yesterday* (r). (Ceefax)

12.40 The Story of English Furniture. Regency period (r)

1.05 In the Post. The pleasures of philately (r) **1.30 Training Dogs the Woodhouse Way** (r) **1.55 The History Man** visits Purton Green, a 13th-century Suffolk house

2.00 Network East includes the latest news of the Indian general elections

2.40 Film: Reap the Wild Wind (1942) starring John Wayne, Paulette Goddard and Ray Milland. High seas drama, set in 19th-century Georgia, about salvagers vying for the affections of a Southern belle. Directed by Cecil B DeMille.

4.40 International Snooker. The Stormseal UK Championship at the Guild Hall, Preston, introduced by David Vine

6.45 Rapido. Music magazine presented by Antoine de Caunes. This week's guests include Janet Jackson and Liza Minnelli

7.15 NewsView with Moira Stuart and Lisa Davidson

8.00 Russian Season. Michael Tilson Thomas and the London Symphony Orchestra explore the influence of Rimsky-Korsakov's music

9.05 Saturday Night Clive. This week Clive James is joined by American satirist Harry Shearer

9.50 The Nutt House. Comedy series set in a run-down New York hotel

10.15 Film: The Summer of Miss Forbes (1987) starring Hanna Schygulla. A *Tales From the Marquez* drama about a German governess whose two young Mexican charges discover her penchant for tequila and her love for a fisherman. Directed by Jaime Humberto Hermosillo.

11.40 The Film Club. Terry Jones introduces **The Miracle of Morgan's Creek** (1944 b/w) starring Betty Hutton, Eddie Bracken and Brian Donlevy. Comedy about a young woman who cannot resist a man in uniform. After a particularly wild night she wakes up married to a soldier she doesn't know — and pregnant. Directed by Preston Sturges. Ends at **1.25am**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Ourselves and Other Animals. Gerald and Lee Durrell explore animal communication (r) **6.30 Just 4 Fun 7.00 Once upon a Time...Life.** Animated series about the human body **7.30 International Times - World News 8.00 Trans World Sport 9.00 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line** A preview of today's racing action **9.25 Sing and Swing** with the stars of the 1930s and 1940s

9.30 Same Difference. Magazine series on disabled matters (r) **10.00 4 What It's Worth.** Consumer affairs (r)

10.30 Film: The Prisoner of Zenda (1937 b/w) starring Ronald Colman, Madeleine Carroll and Douglas Fairbanks Jr. Romantic adventure about an Englishman who takes up the throne of his abducted identical cousin, the King of Ruritania. Directed by John Cromwell.

12.25 Dance with Me. Brazilian drama serial

12.55 Channel 4 Racing from Newcastle. The 1.00, 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30 races introduced by Brough Scott.

2.50 Film: Carrie (1952 b/w) starring Laurence Olivier, Jennifer Jones and Miriam Hopkins. Drama about a turn-of-the-century Missouri farm girl who goes to live with her sister in Chicago. After becoming the mistress of a salesman, she falls into the arms of a middle-aged married man, whose obsession with her eventually leads to tragedy. Directed by William Wyler

5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition (r). (Oracle)

6.00 Right To Reply casts a critical eye over soap operas. With Andrew Howie, producer of *Home and Away* and Mervyn Watson, producer of *Coronation Street*

6.30 A Walk up Fifth Avenue (see Choice)

7.00 1992 and All That. Pride and Prejudice. Vincent Hanna continues his study of the political and cultural implications of the 1992 changes in Europe when, with the expected transfer of power and control, one of the main issues at stake will be national sovereignity

8.00 By the Seat of Their Pants. A documentary about the adventurous individuals, known as 'bush pilots', who, since the 1920s, have ventured to the farthest and most frozen regions of Canada on rescue, disaster and survival operations. (Oracle)

9.00 4 Play - Nobody Here But Us Chickens. (Oracle) (see Choice)

10.25 The Session featuring Joe Ely and his band, Wilko Johnson and the Session Guitar Army

11.25 After Dark. Open-ended topical discussion

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES: 5.10pm-6.00 Wales on Saturday **1.15am-1.20** Weather **NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.10pm-5.15** Northern Ireland News and Sport **10.10** The Show **11.10** International Snooker **12.40am** Close

ANGLIA As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Batman **2.10-3.50** Film: Island of the Lost (Richard Greene) **11.25** Saturday Night at the Movies **11.55** Film: Malibu Beach (James Daughton) **1.45am** 1st **Exposure** 2.15 **Hit Man and Her** 4.15-5.10 **Nascar**

BORDER As Scottish except:**2.10** ALF **2.45-4.45** Rugby League Live (Widnes v Castleford) **11.55-2.15am** Film: Twilight's Last Gleaming (Burt Lancaster)

CENTRAL As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Fashion Show **2.10-3.50** Film: Value for Money (John Gregson) **11.25** Saturday Night at the Movies **11.50** Prisoner **12.45am** Film: Double Man (Yul Brynner) **2.45** Coach **3.15** America's Top Ten **3.45** Cinemattractions **4.15-5.10** American College Football

CHANNEL As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Hot Water **2.10-3.50** Ngaio Marsh Mysteries **5.15-6.15** A-Team **12.50am** Night Heat **1.40** Batman **2.10** Film: Woman Hunter (Robert Vaughn) **3.30-4.05** Rock of Europe

GRANADA As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Saturday Night at the Movies **2.10** The Spectacular World of Guinness Records **2.40-4.45** Rugby League **11.25** Saturday Night at the Movies **11.55** Film: Twilight's Last Gleaming (Burt Lancaster) **2.15am** Hit Man and Her **4.15**-Coach **4.40-5.10** America's Top Ten

HTV WEST As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Batman **2.10-3.45** Film: War of The Worlds **11.25** Saturday Night at the Movies **11.55** Crime Story **12.55am** Three's Company **1.25** Film: Eyes of Charles Sand (Barbara Rush) **2.45** Indy Cart Racing **4.15-5.10** Concert (Dr Feelgood)

HTV WALES As HTV West except: **No Variations.**

LONDON As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** ALF **2.10-3.50** Film: Doctor in Trouble (Leslie Phillips) **11.20** Tour of Duty **12.20am** Saturday Night at the Movies **12.50** Film: The Night That Panicked America (Paul Shenar) **2.35** Coach **3.05** American College Football **4.05-5.05** The Hit Man and her

TSW As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** South West Week **2.10-3.45** Film: Value for Money (John Gregson) **11.25** Saturday Night at the Movies **11.55** Film: Twilight's Last Gleaming (Burt Lancaster) **2.15am** Hit Man and Her **4.15** Coach **4.40-5.10** America's Top Ten

TVS As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Hot Water **2.10-3.50** Ngaio Marsh Mysteries **12.55am** Night Heat **1.45** Batman **2.10** Film: Woman Hunter (Robert Vaughn) **3.30-4.05** Rock of Europe.

TYNE TEES As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Saturday Night at the Movies **2.10** Film: War of the Worlds (Gene Barry) **3.50** ALF **4.15-4.45** Bullseye **5.15-6.15** A-Team **11.25** Saturday Night at the Movies **11.55** Film: Twilight's Last Gleaming (Burt Lancaster) **2.15am** Hit Man and Her **4.15** Coach **4.40-5.10** America's Top Ten.

ULSTER As Scottish except:**12.30pm-1.00** Saturday Night at the Movies **2.10** Film: Circle of Danger" (Ray Milland) **3.45-4.45** Grizzly Adams **11.25** Saturday Night at the Movies **11.55** Film: Twilight's Last Gleaming (Burt Lancaster) **2.15am** Hit Man and Her **4.15** Coach **4.40-5.10** America's Top Ten

YORKSHIRE As Scottish except:**2.10pm-3.50** Film: War of the Worlds (Gene Barry) **12.50am** Hot Shots **1.45** Twilight Zone **2.15** Hit Man and Her **4.15-5.10** Music Box.

S4C Starts:**6.00am** Early Morning **9.00** Racing **9.25** Sing and Swing **9.30** Same Difference **10.00** Stolen Childhood **10.30** Hard News **11.00** A Gardener's Guide **11.30** 4 What It's Worth **12.00** The Mona Lisa is Sad **12.55pm** Racing **2.10** Rygbi **3.45** Film: Pack Up Your Troubles" (Ritz Brothers) **5.05** Brookside **6.00** Right to Reply **6.30** Cosby Show **7.00** Ar Y Bocs **7.30** News **7.40** Noson I'w Chofio **8.40** Y Maes Chwarae **9.30** 4 Play **10.45** Film. Footsteps (Gemma Jones) **11.25** After Dark **1.25am** Closedown.

RTE 1 Starts:**9.00am** Scratch Saturday **1.00pm** Bionic Woman **2.00** Bailey's Bird **2.40** Film: Salvage Gang (Amanda Coxell) **3.45** Film: Mountain Charlie (Dick Robinson) **5.30** Scealaiocht Janosch **6.00** News **6.15** Mailbag **6.35** Famous Teddy Z **7.05** Mission Impossible **8.00** Saturday Stage **9.00** News **9.20** Dallas **10.15** Kenny Live **11.40** Midnight Caller **12.35am** News. Closedown.

NETWORK 2 Starts: **12.30pm** News **12.34** Sports Stadium **5.05** Fish 'N Canada **5.30** Grand Ole Opry **6.00** Leontyne **6.30** Suil Thart **7.00** Rapido **7.30** Tracey Ullman **8.00** Ginger Tree **9.05** Royal Variety Performance **11.35** Closedown.

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am Countdown **7.00** Fun Factory **11.00** Countdown **12.00** Frank Bough's World **1.00pm** The Invisible Man **2.00** All-American Wrestling **3.00** The Bionic Woman **4.00** UK Top 50 **5.00** Dolly **6.00** Film: Le Mans **8.00** Film: SOS Titanic **10.00** WWF Superstars of Wrestling **11.00** Sky World News Tonight **11.30** UK Top 50

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
5.00am Sky News Overnight **6.00** Sky News **6.30** The Unesco Report — Jaisalmer **7.30** Beyond 2000 **8.30** Earthfile **9.30** Wild West End **10.30** The Unesco Report **11.30** Our World — Durrell in Russia: Cormorants, Crows and Catfish **12.30pm** Beyond 2000 **1.30** Motor Sports News **2.30** Wild West End **3.30** Earthfile **4.30** Our World **5.30** Wild West End **6.30** Beyond 2000 **7.30** The Reporters **8.30** The Frank Bough Interview **9.30** The Best of Target **10.30** The Reporters **11.30** Motor Sports News **12.30am** Wild West End **1.30** Target **2.30** The FBI **3.30** The Reporters **4.30** Motor Sports News

SKY MOVIES

From **8.00am The Satellite Shop.**
2.00 Biggles (1986): An American pilot catapulted through time, fights in the First World War alongside a legendary British flyer
3.30 The Blue Max (1966): Second World War dog-fight drama, taking a German view of the conflict. With George Peppard, James Mason and Ursula Andress
6.00 Letter to Three Wives (1985): Three women receive a letter from the town flirt who has run off with one of their husbands
7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 The Color Purple (1985): Stephen Spielberg's film, starring Whoopi Goldberg, as a victimized black woman in the rural American South
10.30 Rambo: First Blood Part 2 (1985):Sylvester Stallone rampages through south-east Asia hunting for missing POWs. With Richard Crenna
12.05am 9½ Weeks (1986): Chronicling the relationship between an art dealer and a wealthy Wall Street broker. Starring Kim Basinger and Mickey Rourke
2.00 Mean Streets (1973): The violent adventures of a small-time hood (Harvey Keitel) and his side kick (Robert De Niro) in New York's Little Italy
4.00 Ruthless People (1986): Bette Midler stars as a kidnapped wife, while Danny De Vito is the husband who is disinclined to pay the ransom. With Judge Reinhold and Helen Slater. Ends at **5.30am**

EUROSPORT

6.00am Sky: Countdown **7.00** Sky: Fun Factory **9.00** Menu **9.30** Rally Challenge **10.00** World Cup Skiing **11.00** Rothmans Internatinal Snooker **12.00** Body Building World Championships **1.00pm** Eurosport Live! Tennis — Ladies' Masters from Essen, West Germany **6.00** Trans World Sport **7.00** Ladies' Masters Tennis **9.30** World Cup Skiing **10.30** Body Building World Championships **11.30** Surfer Magazine

MTV

6.00am Non-Stop Pure Pop **9.00** Club MTV **9.30** US Top 20 Countdown **11.00** Yo! **11.30** Week in Rock **12.00** Marcel and Ray **5.00pm** The Big Picture **5.30** Kristiane Backer **9.00** Party Zone **11.00** MTV Erotica **12.00** Maiken Wexo **2.00am** Night Videos

SCREENSPORT

1.30am US College Football **3.30** NFL '89 Highlights **4.30** Horse Racing **5.30** French Rugby League **7.00** Wide World of Sport **8.00** NFL '89 Game of the Week **10.00** Auto Racing **12.00** English Rugby League **1.30pm** Horse Racing **2.30** Tennis **4.00** Canadian Football League **6.00** Uniroyal Truckspeed Event **6.30** Powersports **7.30** US College Football **9.30** Tennis

LIFESTYLE

12.00 Cisco Kid **12.30pm** Car 54, Where Are You? **1.00** Get Smart **1.30** Make Room for Daddy **2.00** Texas Championship Rodeo **3.00** GLOW **4.00** Edge of Night

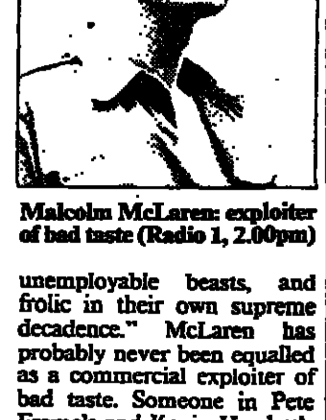
● Full information on satellite TV programmes is available in the weekly magazine, **TV Guide.**

The power and the inglorious

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

● What bells ring for you when someone says he was an extreme Svengali, trained as a painter, was very aware of politics, and regarded people as so many puppets? Isn't the Chaplin moustache all that's missing? Rock manager Malcolm McLaren, profiled in **Starmakers and Svengalis** (Radio 1, 2.00pm), stops well short of claiming a hypnotic kinship with Hitler, preferring instead to see himself in such literary prototypes as Fagin and Dante. The Dante likeness escapes me, but in all that concerns McLaren's 18 months as manager of the appalling Sex Pistols in the mid-Seventies — their more endearing lyrics went "I am an anti-Christ; I am an anarchist, don't know what I want, but I know how to get it, I wanna be anarchy" — there is evidence to support his Dickensian self-portrait as a man who "removed kids from Hell on the streets to an anointed, wonderful Heaven where thieves can sit side by side as



Malcolm McLaren: exploiter of bad taste (Radio 1, 2.00pm)

unemployable beasts, and frolic in their own supreme decadence." McLaren has probably never been equalled as a commercial exploiter of bad taste. Someone in Pete Frame's and Kevin Howlett's documentary talks about McLaren's gift for generating madness. McLaren himself goes for more explosive imagery: "When you're inside a volcano like that (the Sex Pistols era), constantly erupting, all you had to do was light a cigarette — and it went boom!"

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 17

SHADDOCK
(c) A huge orange-type citrus fruit, *Citrus decumana*, named after the Captain Shaddock who brought the seed to Barbados; Byron: "A seaman/Held the moist shaddock to his parched mouth."

AIRHEAD
(a) American slang for an idiot, cf. *meathead, rubblehead*: "The subject of this sly masterpiece was one Colette Sinclair, gold-digging airhead extraordinaire."

MAMELON
(b) A rounded eminence or hummock, a regular little hill, from the Latin *mamilla* a small breast, the diminutive of *mamma* a breast: "Upon the summit of two mamelons, two French outposts were placed."

SPARTH
(c) A long-handled, broad-bladed battle-axe, used especially by the Irish down to the 16th century, from the Old Norse *spartha*: "At his saddle-girth was a good steel sparth."

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW**

News on the half-hour from **5.30am** until **12.30pm**, then at **2.00, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30**

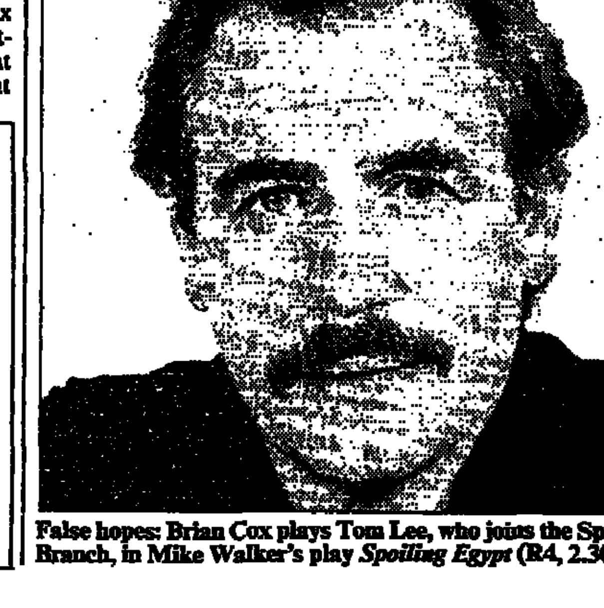
5.00am Tim Smith **7.00** Bruno Brookes Breakfast Show **10.00** Dave Lee Travis **1.00pm** Adrian Juste **2.00** Starmakers and Svengalis (see Choice)**3.00** The Saturday Sequence **7.00** Robbie Vincent **9.00** Soul Train **11.00-2.00am** The Saturday Rock Show

RADIO 2

FM Stereo and **MW**
News on the hour until **1.00pm**, then at **3.00, 6.00, 7.00** and hourly from **10.00**
Headlines **6.30am, 7.30**
4.00am Dave Bussey **6.00** Graham Knight **8.05** David Jacobs **9.00** Sounds of the Sixties **10.00** Anne Robinson **12.00** Gerald Harper **1.00pm** The News Huddlines **1.30** Sport on 2 **6.00** Cinema 2 **6.30** Brain of Sport '89 **7.00** Beat the Record **7.30** Saturday Night Gala **9.30** String Sound **10.05** Martin Kelner **12.05am** Night Owls **1.00** Nightride **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German: Headlines in English and French 5.47 Sports News 5.50 Financial News 5.55 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 World News 7.09 24 Hours: News Summary and Financial News 7.30 From the Weeklies 7.45 Network UK 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 A Jolly Good Show 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News: Sports Roundup 9.45 Worldbrief 10.00 News Summary 10.01 Here's Humph' 10.15 Letter from America 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 World News 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 Behind the Wall 11.30 Londres Midi 12.00 Newsreel 12.15pm Multitrack 3 12.25 The Farming World 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.09 24 Hours, News Summary 1.30 Network UK 1.45 Short Story: Kingbirds and Bobolinks 2.00 News Summary 2.01 The Ken Bruce Show 2.30 Sportsworld 2.45 Nature Now 3.00 Newsreel 3.15 Sportsworld 4.00 World News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Nachrichten 4.40 German Features 5.00 News Headlines in English 5.01 Sportsworld: Final results 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News Headlines in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 Nachrichten 8.00 World News 8.09 From Our Own Correspondent 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Meridian 9.00 News Summary 9.01 Sports Roundup 9.15 Behind the Wall 9.30 The Lives of Joseph Stalin 10.00 Newshour 11.00 World News 11.05 Words of Faith 11.10 Book Choice 11.15 A Jolly Good Show 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Globe Theatre 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 The Book People 2.30 The Ken Bruce Show 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 From Our Own Correspondent 3.30 Quote, Unquote 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Personal View 4.45 Nachrichten und Pressechau



False hopes: Brian Cox plays Tom Lee, who joins the Special Branch, in Mike Walker's play *Spoiling Egypt* (R4, 2.30pm)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather and News Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert: Mussorgsky (A Night on the Bare Mountain: London Philharmonic Orchestra under David Lloyd-Jones); Hilding Rosenberg (Intermezzo and Railway Fugue "Journey to America": Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra under Antal Dorati)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Schubert (Symphony No 1 in D: Chamber Orchestra of Europe under Abbado); Poulenc (Oboe Sonata: Maurice Bourgue, oboe, Pascal Rogé, piano); Honegger (Pastorale d'été: Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra under Charles Dutoit)
8.30 News
8.35 Christian Blackshaw: The pianist performs Beethoven (Sonata in E minor, Op 90); Schumann (Fantasie in C, Op 17) (r)
9.30 Saturday Review: Introduced by Edward Greenfield. Record Review — Building a Library. John Warrack on Dvořák's String Quartet, Op 95 "American"; and Alan Blyth reviews new song discs **10.40** Record Release. Guy Ropartz (Quatre poèmes d'après L'Intermezzo de Heine: José Van Dam, baritone, Jean-Philippe Collard, piano): Strauss (Frühlingsfeier; Schlechtes Wetter: Gwyneth Jones, soprano, Geoffrey Parsons, piano); Bartók (Music for strings, percussion and celesta: Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Fritz Reiner); Poulenc (Chansons gaillardes: José Van Dam, baritone, Jean-Philippe Collard, piano); Ravel (Pavane pour une infante défunte: Chicago SO under Fritz Reiner); Mozart, ed Beyer (Requiem, K 626: Bavarian RSO under Bernstein; Soloists, Bavarian Radio Chorus)
1.00pm News
1.05 London Fortepiano Trio performs Storace (Piano Trio in D); Haydn (Piano Trio in E minor, H XV 12) (r)
1.45 From the Festivals 1989: Three Choirs Festival. RLPO under John Sanders; Three Choirs Festival Chorus, Julie Kennard, soprano, Robert Tear, tenor, Brian Rayner Cook, baritone, Michael George, bass, with Mark Blatchly, organ, performs Elgar (Cantata, Caractacus)
3.35 Tombeaux: Sarah Cunningham and Richard Campbell, viols, and Mitzi Meyerson, harpsichord, perform Marais (Tombeau pour M. de Lully): Sainte Colombe (Tombeau les Regrets; Sainte Colombe le Fils (Tombeau pour Sainte Colombe le père); Louis Couperin (Tombeau pour M. de Blancrocher); Marais (Tombeau pour M. Melliton; Chaconne in G) (r)
4.25 Début: the pianist William Stephenson performs Liszt (Funérailles; Petrach Sonnet No 3; Hungarian Rhapsody No 12 in C sharp minor)
5.00 Jazz Record Requests with Peter Clayton
5.45 Critics' Forum: Chairman Paul Barker, Joan Bakewell, Blake Morrison and Marina Valzey discuss Peter Shaffer's *Whom Do I Have the Honour of Addressing?* on Radio 4; *Hamlet*, directed by Yuri Lyubimov, at the Old Vic; and Krzysztof Kieslowski's film *A Short Film about Killing*
6.35 Hagen String Quartet performs Mozart (String Quartet in D, K 155); Alfred Schnittke (Canon in memoriam Igor Stravinsky); Bartók (String Quartet No 1) (r)
7.30 Ed war einmal (Once upon a Time). Danish Radio Choir and Symphony Orchestra under Hans Graf perform Alexander Zemlinsky's fairy-tale opera. Premiered by Mahler in 1900, it tells how a prince deceives the princess he loves, by disguising: himself as a gypsy, in order to win her love away from royal circles
9.30 Steven Isserlis and Susan Tomes: The cellist and pianist perform Beethoven (Sonata in F, Op 5 No 1); Shostakovich (Sonata, Op 40) (r)
10.20 Studio 3: Selling Out, by Nigel Moffatt. Two disturbing characters threaten to thwart a writer's deadline
10.50 Outside In: A recording from this year's Crawley festival, introduced by Charles Fox, of French jazz pianist Michel Petrucciani (making his UK début), with Andrew McKee, bass, and Victor Jones, drums. Petrucciani (Looking up); Ornette Coleman (Turn Around); Petrucciani (Bite); Duke Ellington (In a Sentimental Mood); Petrucciani (She Did It Again)
12.00 News
12.05am Close

RADIO 4

LW (s) Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** The Farming Week **6.50** Prayer for the Day **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today, incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.55, 8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Sport on 4 with Cliff Morgan
9.30 Breakaway: Alanah Martin with the first of three reports from Australia's Northern Territory
10.00 News; Loose Ends: Ned Sherrin, with guests Robert Elms, Victoria Mather and John Walters (s)
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster with Michael White
11.30 Europhile: News and events affecting people around Europe, presented from Paris by Philippe Chatenay and Josef Joffe
12.00 Money Box with Louise Botting and Vincent Duggleby
12.25pm The News Quiz: Hosted by Barry Took. With team captains Richard Ingrams and Alan Coren (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 News
1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby in Clevedon, Avon, with Robin Cook, MP, Baroness Seear, Andrew Neil and William Waldegrave, MP (r)
2.00 News; Any Answers? 01-580 4411. Jonathan Dimbleby takes listeners' calls on topics raised in this week's *Any Questions?*
2.30 Spoiling Egypt: Play by Mike Walker. With Brian Cox as Tom Lee and Norman Jones as Bryant. Tom Lee's expectations are not realized when he joins the Special Branch (s) (r)
4.00 News; Age to Age: John Luce visits the isolated plateau of Masada which became a symbol of Jewish nationalism when 960 men, women and children committed suicide there 2,000 years ago to escape the wrath of the Romans
4.30 Science Now
5.00 Conversation Piece: Sue MacGregor talks to fashion designer Betty Jackson (r)
5.25 Week Ending: Satirical review of the week's news. With Bill Wallis, David Tate and Sally Grace (r) **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News: Sports round-up
6.25 Citizens omnibus edition (s)
7.10 Stop the Week with Robert Robinson
7.45 Saturday-night Theatre: SID, by Steve May. With David Collings as Pringle and Donald Gee as the Hairdresser. Everybody appears set to thwart the efforts of a boffin who may have found a cure for Scurf Inhalation Disease (s)
9.00 Music in Mind: Brian Kay with best-loved melodies (s)
9.50 Ten to Ten led by Canon Geoffrey Brown (s) **9.59** Weather
10.00 News
10.15 Open Mind: John Lloyd challenges three experts to discuss topical issues
10.45 Father, Dear Father: A childhood memoir by Denis Constanduros. Abridged in eight-parts and read by Benjamin Whitrow. Part 7: Finale (s)
11.00 Lenin of the Rovers: In the final episode, Felchester have reached the cup final. Starring Alexei Sayle as Ricky Lenin in the comedy series about Britain's first communist football club. Part 8: The Final Solution (s)
11.30 Beachcomber . . . By the Way: Starring Richard Ingrams, John Wells, with Patricia Routledge and John Sessions, in a recreation of the world of J.B. Morton (s)
12.00-12.30am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast
FM as **LW** except:
1.55-2.00pm Programme News **4.30-6.00** Options: **4.30** The Riddle of the Stones (new series) **5.00** Ticket to Write **5.30** Franc-Parler

SCOTLAND

FM and **MW**
News on the hour until **2.00pm.**
6.00am As Radio 4 **6.55** Weather **7.03** Out of Doors **7.10** Weekly Report **7.30** Far From the Crowd **8.00** Newsweek Scotland **9.03** Sport on Scotland
9.30 Travel Time **10.03** Jimmy Mack's Old Gold **11.30** Fiona Kennedy **2.02pm** Sportsound **5.57** Weather **6.00** News **6.05** Take the Floor **7.00** The Other Side of Country **7.45-12.43am** As Radio 4

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2. **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m; FM-90-92.4. **Radio 4:** 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. **World Service:** MW 648kHz/463m. **Radio Clyde (Glasgow):** 1152kHz/261m; FM 102.5. **Radio Forth (Edinburgh):** 1548kHz/194m; FM 97.3.

SUNDAY'S SCOTTISH TV AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

Full of Eastern promise

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

● By Christopher Hampton, Oscar-winning adaptor of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, out of Oswald Wynd's novel, The Ginger Tree (BBC1, 9.05-10.05pm) expertly dissects a loveless turn-of-the-century marriage and follows the wife's affair with a handsome Japanese spy. Samantha Bond plays the young Edinburgh girl who goes East to marry a British military attaché and soon comes to regret it. They have met only three times, but the evidence suggests that he is a male chauvinist who will put his career first and her second. As he goes off to Port Arthur and the Russo-Japanese War, she finds consolation in the arms and the bed of Count Kurihama (Daisuke Ryu), a liaison which thrives in spite of his fractured English. Whether Hampton can lift the project out of theconventional triangle drama, only future episodes will tell. An Anglo-Japanese co-production, *The Ginger Tree* is the first BBC drama to be made on High Definition Television, though it will be some time before the benefits of this technology are available here.

Affair: Samantha Bond finds consolation with *Daisuke Ryu* (BBC1, 9.05pm)

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

● Nigel Kennedy, currently our wunderkind violin virtuoso and, in dress (early Flower Power) and address ("Yes, mate" and "Cool it, man"), a breaker of musicianly moulds, is being tested out as *strolling interviewer in Down Your Way* (Radio 4, LW, 5.00pm). Visiting the Malvern Hills, he finds they are alive with the sound of music, all Elgar, and mostly violin. Uniquely, he finds a link between a Morgan car and a Strad. He flies a kite, quaffs cider, pulls a signal-box lever, makes a cultural *faux pas*, and wants to know what John Masefield did. There has never been a *Down Your Way* presenter quite like him. Only if you can't forget about Brian Johnston will you be impervious to his likeable lack of social sophistication.

BBC 1

8.55 It's My Pleasure. The late Irene Handl talks to Desmond Lynam about *her favourite films and television programmes (r)*
9.30 This Is the Day. A simple religious service
10.00 A Life of Our Own. For people with learning difficulties (r) **10.25 Buongiorno Italia!** Italian for beginners (r) **10.50 Help Your Child with Maths** (r) **11.05 Hindi Urdu Bol Chaal.** For beginners in Hindi and Urdu
11.30 In the Know. Steps to successful learning. (Ceefax) **11.40 Step Up to Wordpower.** How to write letters
12.05 See Hear! Magazine for the deaf and hard-of-hearing
12.30 Landward. Ross Muir reports from the fertile Sepik River area of Papua New Guinea **12.55** Weather
1.00 News and weather followed by **On the Record.** Chris Patten, the *Environment Secretary*, is interviewed about the Government's latest steps to tackle the public's increasing concern about the environment **2.00 EastEnders** (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 International Snooker. The Stormseal UK Championship from the *Guild Hall, Preston introduced* by David Vine. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Karnehm and Clive Everton
4.40 Superdogs. This fourth quarter-final features top dogs from Wales and the North East showing off their intelligence, agility, speed and obedience in front of their proud owners. With commentary from Deborah Hall and Peter Purves. Plus vet John Wilson giving tips on responsible dog ownership
5.20 The Clothes Show includes Selina Scott at the Duchess of Windsor's Paris house exploring her wardrobe and talking to her valet. From Edinburgh there is a Fabric of the Nation showcase of the best in Scottish textiles, featuring top designers' works. Meanwhile, Jeff Banks takes part in a game of guessing the latest fragrances for Christmas at St Joseph's Keep Fit Class in Accrington, Lancashire
5.45 The Chronicles of Narnia. Prince Caspian and the evil King Miraz prepare to do battle.
6.15 Stepping Up. Series for people reading and writing difficulties
6.25 News and weather
6.40 Songs of Praise. A Thanksgiving special from Stockbridge, Massachussetts presented by Debbie Thrower. (Ceefax)
7.15 Last of the Summer Wine. Compo, Clegg and Seymour are called in by Nora Batty to help move an old metal bedstead and an *old mangle. Starring Bill Owen*, Peter Sallis, Michael Aldridge and Kathy Staff. (Ceefax)
7.45 Howards' Way. In this final episode of the series Leo and Ken agree to a head-to-head powerboat race to Guernsey. Meanwhile, Abby is determined to win custody of William. Starring Jan Harvey, Glyn Owen, Dulcie Gray and Tony Arnholt (Ceefax)
8.35 Bread. The Boswells leap into action to replace Grandad's furniture when his house is completely cleaned out by burglars; Nellie seeks guidance from Father Brennan about her feelings for Derek, while her husband is pursued by Lilo Lill. (Ceefax)
9.05 The Ginger Tree. (Ceefax) (see Choice)
10.05 News and weather
10.20 Everyman: People Like My Mum Don't Get AIDS. This first of a new series investigates the personal tragedies of women carrying the HIV virus
11.00 International Snooker. Highlights of today's games in the Stormseal UK Championship
12.05am Network East (r). Ends at **12.40**

SCOTTISH

6.00 TV-am begins with an RSPB film; **6.30 Animals in Action; 7.00 It's Stardust.** Songs, stories and poems presented by Alvin Stardust
8.00 Anne Diamond on Sunday. Includes Michael Cockerill and Lord St John of Fawsley discussing the televising of Parliament
9.25 The Disney Club. Young people's entertainment **10.45 Glen Michael's Cartoon Cavalcade**
11.15 Link An interview with Dr Margaret Blackwood, the disabled campaigner who started the Disabled Income Group in Scotland
11.30 Crann Tara. Gaelic magazine series
12.00 The Human Factor: We Think You Ought To Go. Ted Harrison joins two Second World War evacuees who are reunited in Dorset
12.30 Scottish Supplement. Series on Scotland's newspaper and magazine industry **12.55 Scotland Today**
1.00 *News with Sue Carpenter.* Weather
1.10 Eyewitness includes a report on the general election in India
2.00 Landmark. Last in the series, presented by Eric Robson
2.30 Fiddlers Tracks. With the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra as they take a special train to a sell-out concert *at London's Royal Albert Hall*
3.00 Highway to Heaven. Jonathan the apprentice angel sorts out another earthly problem **4.00 Bullseye**
4.30 Scotsport. Football action from both sides of the border; and the finals of the Scottish Open Badminton championships
6.00 *The Blue and the Green.* Penry Jones and Father John Fitzsimmons visit the ruins of an old Catholic seminary at Glenlivet
6.30 News and weather **6.35 Scotland Today**
6.40 Highway. Sir Harry Secombe visits Christ's Hospital, Horsham, *West Sussex*
7.15 Close to Home. Comedy series starring Paul Nicholas as a vet. This week, James's assistant, Rose, goes on a computer course and he decides to ask his ex-wife to help out. With Angharad Rees and Jane Briers
7.45 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: A Sleeping Life. Following his trip to France, Wexford finally starts to piece the jigsaw together. (Oracle)
8.45 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather
9.05 London's Burning. George's romance with Julia leads to tension and violence within Blue Watch; while Charisma finds himself with yet another house guest when Sicknote is thrown out by his wife. (Oracle)
10.05 Spitting Image includes a look at the careers of Kenneth Branagh and Emma Thompson
10.35 *The South Bank Show.* Melvyn Bragg talks to deaf musician Evelyn Glennie, one of the world's leading percussionists
11.35 Night Flyte. William McIlvanney discusses the changing role of women in Scotland with Lynda Myles, Edi Stark, Agnes MacLean and Mary O'Toole
12.35am Film: Goin' South (1978) starring Jack Nicholson and Mary Steenburgen. Comedy Western about a cowboy who saves himself from the noose by marrying a spinster. Directed by Jack Nicholson
2.30 California Highways. Travelogue
3.00 Pick of the Week. The best from the regions
3.30 The ITV Chart Show (r) **4.30 Jobfinder**
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at **6.00**

GRAMPIAN

As Scottish except: **10.45am Robostory 11.15 Jerusalem of Heaven and Earth 11.45-12.00 Link 12.30pm-1.00 Landmark 2.00 Film: Lesson in Loving 3.30-4.30 Badminton** (Scotland v Sweden) **6.00-6.30 Bullseye 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30am Quiz Night 1.00-3.00 Film: *Billion Dollar Brain***

BBC 2

7.30 Playbus (r) **7.55 Jimbo and the Jet Set** (r) **8.00 Is That a Fact?** (r) ***8.15 The Hallo Spencer Show!*** Cartoon **8.40 Umbrella.** Children's religious series **8.55 Smoggies 9.15 Comers** (r) **9.30 Visionaries** (r)
9.55 Blue Peter Omnibus (r) **10.45 Maid Marian and Her Merry Men.** Episode two (r) **11.10 Boxpops** (r) **11.55 The O Zone.** Pop music magazine **12.10 Reportage Update**
1.00 One in Four. Magazine series on disabled matters (r) **1.30 Sporting Years.** Sports headlines of 1959 **2.00 40 Minutes: Heart of the Angel** (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 Film: Let's Make Love (1960) starring Marilyn Monroe, Yves Montand, Tony Randall and Frankie Vaughan. Romantic comedy directed by George Cukor.
4.55 Rugby Special. Barbarians v the All Blacks; and Glasgow v Edinburgh
6.00 Juke Box Jury
6.35 The Money Programme includes a profile of Sir Jeffrey Sterling
7.15 The Natural World. The second of two films on the Amazon rain forest (Ceefax)
8.05 Prisoners of Conscience. Ludovic Kennedy with an up-date to last *year's series on prisoners of* conscience. (Ceefax)
8.10 Trial. A Soviet documentary about Stalin's rise to power and his reign of terror. Introduced by Peter Frank, senior lecturer in Soviet Government and Politics at Essex University
9.25 *Rhythms of the World.* *Qawwali* virtuoso Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan in concert at Smallheath Park, Birmingham
10.20 Film: Footloose (1984) starring Kevin Bacon, John Lithgow and Lori Singer. A city kid moves to a small town where he finds rock 'n' roll is banned and dancing *is taboo.* Directed by Herbert Ross. (Ceefax)
12.05am Rapido (r). Ends at **12.40**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Hallelujah! 6.30 Flight over Spain. Toledo from the air (r) **7.00 A Gardener's Guide** to outdoor chrysanthemums (r) **7.30 Box Office Weekly 8.00 David the Gnome 8.30 Boy Dominic.** Episode four (r) **9.00** Dennis
9.25 Orientations reports on Tiawan and its aboriginal community
10.00 A Week in Politics.
11.00 Pob's Programme (r) **11.30 The Henderson Kids 12.00 The Waltons 1.00 Land of the Giants** (r)
2.00 Film: On Approval (1944 b/w), starring Clive Brook. Comedy about an impoverished Duke and his penniless friend who both go about wooing the wealthy. Directed by Clive Brook.
3.30 Channel 4 Racing International. The Japan Cup from Tokyo
4.00 Art of the Western World. The achievements of the High Renaissance
4.30 Moving Stills. The work of documentary photographer Jenny Matthews
4.40 Answering Back. Mary Golding talks to John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer
5.25 News summary and weather
5.30 American Football. Review
6.30 The Wonder Years. *Comedy*
7.00 Skyscraper. The first of four programmes about the building of a New York skyscraper
8.00 The Media Show presented by Emma Freud
9.00 One Hour with Jonathan Ross and Gilbert and George
10.00 Film: Psycho *(1960 b/w) starring* Janet Leigh, Anthony Perkins and John Gavin. Thriller about a young woman embezzler who arrives with her boyfriend at a run-down motel managed by a psychopath. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock. (Oracle)
12.05am American Football
1.35 The World Games from Karlsruhe. Ends at **2.30**

VARIATIONS

BBC1 **WALES: 11.05am** See Hear! **11.30** *Time For Sport* **12.30pm-1.00** Farming in Wales **12.40am-12.45** News headlines and weather **NORTHERN IRELAND: 12.30pm-1.00** Tomorrow's Farm

ANGLIA **As Scottish except: 12.30pm-1.00** Farming Diary **2.00** Highway to Heaven **2.55-3.25** Wheel of Fortune **5.35** Bullseye **6.05-6.30** Cartoon **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H **12.30am** Hodson Confidential **1.00** Film: The Rip Off **3.00** Transmission **4.00** Throb **4.30-5.00** Pick of the Week

BORDER **As Scottish except: 10.45am** Link **11.00-12.00** Morning Worship **12.30pm-1.00** Landmark **2.00** Cover Story (Phyllis Dillier) **2.30-3.25** Coronation Street **3.25** The Match (Liverpool v Arsenal) **5.35-6.30** Highway to Heaven **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H **12.30am** Quiz Night **1.00-3.00** Film: Billion Dollar Brain

CENTRAL **As Scottish except: 12.30pm-1.00** Here and Now **2.55-3.25** Best and Marsh **5.35** Bullseye **6.05-6.30** ALF **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H **12.30am** Film: Last Ride of the Dalton Gang **3.15** ITV Chart Show **4.15** Pick of the Week **4.40-5.00** Jobfinder.

CHANNEL **As Scottish except: 12.35pm-1.00** Les Français Chez-Vous **2.00-2.55** McCloud: Our Man in Paris **11.45** Human Factor **12.15am** Film: Mommie Dearest **2.40** Pick of the Week **3.10** Beyond 2000 **4.05** Coast to Coast People **4.35-5.00** ALF.

GRANADA **As Scottish except: 12.30pm** This is your Right **12.40-1.00** What the MPs Say **2.00** McCloud: Our Man in Paris **5.35-6.30** Coronation Street **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H **12.30am** Quiz Night **1.00** Film: Billion Dollar Brain **3.00** Pick of the Week **3.30** Chart Show **4.25-5.00** Jobfinder.

HTV WEST **As Scottish except: 12.30pm-1.00** Clive's Countrywise **2.00** Heart of the Country **2.25-3.25** Sport **5.35** Bullseye **6.05-6.30** Who's the Boss? **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H **12.35am** Chart Show **1.30** Derrick **2.40am** Hit Man and Her **3.40** Versailles **4.40-5.00** Jobfinder.

HTV WALES **As HTV West except: 12.30-12.55pm** Farming Wales **2.00** Day Return **2.30-3.25** Where There's a Will

LONDON **As Scottish except: 10.45am** Link **11.00-12.00** Morning Worship **12.30pm** Sky Walk Klammer **12.45-1.00** Police 5 **2.00** McCloud **2.55** Bullseye **3.25** The Match Liverpool v Arsenal **5.35-6.30** Sunday Sunday **11.35** Whitbread Round the World Race **11.45** The ITV Chart Show **12.45am** The Boast of Kings **1.45** Pick of the Week **2.15** Indy Cart Racing **4.00-5.00** The Silk Road

TSW **As Scottish except: 12.30pm-1.00** Farming News **2.00** Of the Hook **2.25-3.25** ALF **5.35-6.30** Grizzly Adams **11.35** Crime Story **12.30am** Quiz Night **1.00** Film: Billion Dollar Brain **3.00** Pick of the Week **3.30** Chart Show **4.30-5.00** Jobfinder.

TVS **As Scottish except: 12.30pm-1.00** Agenda **12.15am** Film: Mommie Dearest **2.40** Pick of the Week **3.10** Beyond 2000 **4.05** Coast to Coast People **4.35-5.00** ALF.

TYNE TEES **As Scottish except: 12.30pm-1.00** Straight Talk **2.55-3.25** Landmark **5.35-6.30** Coronation Street **11.35** Inner Space (Pennine area only) **11.35** Spelt MAN (Bladale area only) **12.05am** Jerusalem **12.30** Quiz Night **1.00** Film: Billion Dollar Brain **3.00** Pick of the Week **3.30** Chart Show **4.30-5.00** Jobfinder.

ULSTER **As Scottish except: 12.30pm-1.00** Preview **2.25-2.55** Make It Pay **5.35-6.30** Coronation Street **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H **12.30am** Quiz Night **1.00** Film: Billion Dollar Brain **3.05** Pick of the Week **3.30** Chart Show **4.30-5.00** Jobfinder.

YORKSHIRE **As Scottish except: 12.25pm** Goals on Sunday **12.50-1.00** News **5.35-6.30** Highway to Heaven **11.35** Scrumdown **12.35am** Chart Show **1.35** Pick of the Week **2.05** Burke's Law **3.00** Grand Ole Opry **3.30** Music Box **4.30-5.00** Jobfinder.

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

8.00am *The Hour of Power* **7.00** *Fun* Factory **11.00** UK Top 50 **12.00** Beyond 2000 **1.00pm** That's Incredible **2.00** WWF Superstars of Wrestling '89 **3.00** The Incredible Hulk **4.00** Emergency **5.00** Eight is Enough **6.00** Family Ties **7.00** 21 Jump Street **8.00** Film: Golden Rendezvous **10.00** Entertainment This Week **11.00** Sky World News Tonight **11.30** The Paper Chase **12.30am** Countdown

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
5.00am Sky News Overnight **5.30** Fashion TV **6.30** The Best of the Frank Bough Interview **7.30** Roving Report **8.30** Those Were the Days **9.30** The Wall Street Journal **10.30** Fashion TV **11.30** Our World **12.30pm** The Editors **1.30** Those Were the Days **2.30** The Wall Street Journal **3.30** Entertainment This Week **4.30** Our World **5.30** Fashion TV **6.30** Entertainment This Week **7.30** Those Were the Days **8.30** The Editors **9.30** Meet the Press **10.30** Roving Report **11.30** Entertainment This Week **12.30am** The Editors **1.30** Entertainment This Week **2.30** Meet the Press **3.30** Entertainment This Week **4.30** Roving Report

SKY MOVIES

From **8.00am The Satellite Shop**
2.00 The Princess Bride (1987): Modern humorous fairy-tale
4.00 A Billion for Boris: A television broadcasts a day ahead of time
6.00 Three Men and a Baby (1987): A baby girl disrupts the lives of three bachelors
8.00 Black Widow (1987): Starring Debra Winger and Theresa Russell
10.00 Assault on Precinct 13 (1976): A LA police station is under siege
12.00 The Terminator (1984): Arnold Schwarzenegger as a 21st-century warrior sent to present day LA
1.45am Brazil (1985): Dark vision of the future from Monty Python's Terry Gilliam
4.00 Prizzi's Honour (1985): Story of a Mafia-style Brooklyn family. Ends at **6.05am**

EUROSPORT

6.00am Sky: Hour of Power **7.00** Sky: Fun Factory **9.00** Menu **9.30 Tennis 10.00** Skiing **11.00** Handball **12.00** Gymnastics **1.00** Eurosport Live! Ladies' Masters Tennis Final **4.30** Rugby Union — New Zealand v Barbarians **6.00** Women's Speedskating **7.00** Tennis **9.00** Football **10.00** Skiing **11.00** Billiards

SCREENSPORT

12.30am Auto Racing **2.30** Argentina Football '89 **4.15** Spanish Soccer **6.00** Canadian Football League **8.00** Auto Racing **10.00** NFL '89 Game of the Week **12.00** Argentina Football '89 **1.45pm** Uni Royal Trackspeed Event **2.15** Sport en France **2.45** Tennis **4.15** Argentina Football '89 **6.00** Ice Hockey **8.00** US College Football **10.00** French Rugby League **11.00** Boxing

● *Full information on satellite TV* programmes is available in the weekly magazine, TV Guide.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW**

News on the half-hour from **5.30am** until **12.30pm,** then at **2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30**

5.00am Tim Smith **7.00** Bruno Brookes Breakfast Show **9.30** Dave Lee Travis **12.30pm** Pick of the Pops **3.00** Phillip Schofield ***4.00 Chart Quiz*** **4.30** Chartbusters **5.00** Top 40 **7.00** Anne Nightingale Request Show **9.00** Andy Kershaw **11.00-2.00am** Peebles on Sunday

RADIO 2

FM Stereo News on the hour

4.00am David Allan **6.00** *Graham Knight* **7.30** *Good Morning* Sunday **9.05** Melodies for You **11.00** Your Radio 2 All-Time greats **2.00pm** Gilbert and Sullivans: The Yeoman of the Guard **4.30** Sing Something Simple **4.45** Los Paraguayos **5.00** (FM joins Radio 1) **7.00** Living *with Betty* **7.30** *My Musical Life* **8.30** Sunday Half-Hour **9.00** Your Hundred Best Tunes **10.05** Songs from the Shows **10.45** Peter Dickinson **11.00** Sounds of Jazz **1.00am** Nightride **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 By Appointment: Music written for Louis XIV, Lully (Suite, Atys: ECO under Raymond Leppard, harpsichord); Couperin (Concert royal No 4: Kuijken Baroque Instrumental Ensemble)
7.30 News
7.35 Haydn Originals: Overture, Il mondo della luna (Concentus Musicus, Vienna under Harnoncourt); Divertimento in G, H IV 9 (Barthold Kuijken, flute, Sigiswald Kuijken, violin, Wieland Kuijken, cello); String Quartet in C, Op 20 No 2 (Quartetto Esterházy, Amsterdam); Concerto in D, H XVIII 2 (Concentus Musicus, Vienna under Harnoncourt)
8.30 News
8.35 Your Concert Choice: Michel Corrette (Laudate Dominum: Ensemble Vocal et instrumental de Lyon under Guy Cornut); Mozart (String Quartet in D, K 499: Quartetto Italiano); Poulenc (Piano Concerto: Bournemouth SO under Rudolf Barshai); Stravinsky (Concerto in D: Berlin PO under Herbert Von Karajan); William Grant Still (Afro-American Symphony: LSO under Paul Freeman)
10.30 Music Weekly: Laurence Hughes reports from Borovets, Bulgaria, on their folk and contemporary music festival; a portrait of Sir John Barbirolli (1899-1970); an analysis by Gerard McBurney of Sofia Asgatovna Gubaydulina
11.15 BBC Philharmonic Orchestra under Jiri Belohlavek, piano, performs Smetana (Symphonic poem, *From Bohemia's Woods and* Fields); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 18 in B flat, K 456); Martinů (Symphony No 4)
12.35pm Howard Shelley: The pianist performs Haydn (Sonata in E flat, H XVI 49); *Schumann (Carnaval, Op 9)*
1.35 Music from an Imperfect Church: London Baroque performs works by Bolognese composers such as Torelli, Giovan Battista Vitali, Cazzati and Corelli, performed by composers and *musicians* of the Philharmonic Academy, from the basilica of San Petronio in Bologna. Described as "imperfect" by John Evelyn in 1645, the church became the headquarters of the Italian instrumental concerto in the late 17th century
2.25 Poet of the Month: The work of Californian poet Robinson Jeffers is introduced by Czeslaw Milosz
2.30 Albéniz and Granados: Albéniz (Catalonia: Spanish Radio Orchestra under Igor Markevitch); Granados (Tonadillas: Montserrat Caballé Orchestra under Rafael Ferrer)
3.00 Chicago SO under Solti performs Beethoven (Overture, Coriolan; Symphony No 4 in B flat); Bartók (Violin Concerto No 2)
4.30 Celebrity Recital: Sharoun Ensemble performs Devienne (Bassoon Quartet in F, Op 73 No 2); Mozart (*Horn Quintet in E flat*, K 407); Schubert (Octet in F, D 803)
6.15 The 1989 Reith Lectures: Beyond the Tunnel of History, by Jacques Derras. In the first of his lectures, the French writer travels *back in time to the Grote* Markt (or Grand-Place) in Brussels, the embodiment of the multi-cultural Europe that awaits us in 1992 (r)
6.45 Wanda Landowska, performs on harpsichord, Couperin (Les Calotins et les calotines ou La Pièce à tretous; Les Vergers fleuris); Scarlatti (Sonata in D minor, Kk 141); Couperin (Les Folies françaises ou les Dominos); Scarlatti (Sonata in D, Kk 492); Couperin (La Favorite "Chaconne"); Bach (*Chromatic Fantasia* and Fugue, BWV 903)
7.30 LSO at the Barbican: Part 1. The LSO under Richard Hickox; London Symphony Chorus perform Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis); *Elgar (Cello Concerto in E* minor)
8.20 Your Father's Eyes Are Blue Again; The Bey; The Albatross, by Bruce Chatwin. Read by Patrick Malahide
8.40 LSO at the Barbican: Part 2. Britten (*Spring Symphony*)
9.30 Based on Mozart: Kathron Sturrock and Piers Lane, pianos, perform Busoni (Duettino concertante); Reger (Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Mozart)
10.05 *Third Ear: Robert Hewison* chairs an issue on a current issue (r)
10.30 For St Andrew's-tide: Tom Fleming and Cappella Nova with a sequence recorded in Old St Paul's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh
12.00 News **12.05am** Close

WORLD SERVICE

5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German; Headlines in English and French 5.47 Sports News 5.50 Financial News *5.55 Weather and Travel News* 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.09 24 Hours: News Summary and Financial News 7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.50 Waveguide 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 The Pleasure's Yours 9.00 News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 Nature Now 9.30 Financial Review 9.40 Book Choice 9.45 Short Story: Kingbirds and Bobolinks 10.01 Science in Action 10.30 In Praise of God 11.00 News 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 From Our Own Correspondent 11.30 Londres Midi 12.00 Globe theatre 1.00pm News 1.09 24 Hours 1.30 Sports Roundup 1.45 Personal View 2.01 What do Muslims Believe? 2.30 Anything Goes 2.45 Nature Now 3.00 Newsreel 3.15 From Britain's Music Festival 4.00 News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Nachrichten 4.40 German Features 5.00 News 5.09 *Book Choice 5.15 Club 549* 5.30 Londres Soir 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Nachrichten 6.40 German Features 7.54 Nachrichten 8.00 News 8.09 Personal View 8.30 Ned Sherrin's Counterpoint 9.01 Sports Round-up 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours 10.00 Newshour 11.00 News 11.10 Book Choice 11.15 Letter from America 11.30 What Do Muslims Believe? 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am In Praise of God 1.01 The Good Book 1.30 Readings from the Good Book 1.45 Cole Porter Among Friends 2.00 News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 World of Music 2.30 Science in Action 3.00 News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 Good Books 3.30 Anything Goes 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Letter from America 4.45 Nachrichten und Pressechau

RADIO 4

LW (s) Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** *News Briefing;* Weather **6.10** Prelude (s) **6.30** Morning Has Broken (s) **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.10** Sunday Papers
7.15 *On Your Farm:* Claire Powell visits Jeremy and Carolyn Seel who run a deer farm **7.40** Sunday, incl **7.55** Weather **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers
8.50 Appeal by David Dimbleby on behalf of the Chasely Trust, an organization that offers a home and medical care to disabled ex-servicemen **8.55** Weather
9.00 News **9.10** Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from America (r)
9.30 Morning Service from the Kirk of St John the Baptist, Perth
10.15 The Archers
11.15 News Stand with Hugh Pryser-Jones
11.30 Pick of the Week (s) (r)
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley with Lady Mosley (s) *12.55 Weather*
1.00 The World This Weekend **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time from Cottingham, North Humberside
2.30 Twenty Thousand Streets Under The Sky: Three-part dramatization of Patrick Hamilton's novel (s)
3.30 The Radio Programme with Laurie Taylor
4.00 Pillars of Society: Michael Elliot assesses the public image of Marks and Spencer and asks how it maintains its position as a leading British institution
4.47 Treasure Islands: Children's book programme (r)
5.00 News: Down Your Way: Violinist Nigel Kennedy visits the Malvern Hills (see Choice)
5.40 Really Not a Soldier: The story of the late Rupert Westmacott who enlisted in the New Zealand army as a cook during the First World War (r) **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News
6.15 Feedback with Chris Dunkley
6.30 Europhile: News and events affecting people around Europe (r)
7.00 News; Cat's Whiskers: Presented by Julie First and Adrian Moorhouse, with guest Magnus Magnusson (s)
7.30 Bookshelf (r)
8.00 Punters: Listeners report on life's problems, injustice and quirks (r)
8.40 The Aran Islands, by J.M. Synge. The story of Synge's visit to Aranmore, to study the language
9.00 News; Rich Pickings: An anthology of poetry and prose about love, read by Hannah Gordon and David Suchet
9.15 The Natural History Programme **9.59** Weather
10.00 News
10.15 An Odyssey Round Odysseus: Oliver Taplin continues to trace the figure of Odysseus
11.00 In Committee: The work of Parliament's Select Committees
11.30 Seeds of Faith: Pauline Webb examines the custom of lighting Advent candles (s)
12.00-12.30am News, incl **12.2** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast
FM as LW except:
1.55-2.00pm Programme News
4.00-6.00 Options: **4.00** Something in the City **4.30** Understanding Parliament (s) **5.00** Wordpower Writing **5.30** Buongiorno Italia!

SCOTLAND

MW
6.30 As Radio 4 **7.45** Letter From America **7.59** Weather **8.00** As Radio 4 **8.10** Greetings Programme **8.55** Appeal: Sense in Scotland **9.00** News: Weather **9.03** Faith in Focus **9.30** Morning Service **10.00** News **10.02** The Reel Blend **11.00** News **11.02** Sunday Joint, incl **12.00** News
12.30pm Naked Radio **1.00** News **1.05** Gerry Davis **2.00** News **2.02** Youth's The Season (new series) **2.32** Strings at Blair Atholl **2.50** Noreen and Phillip Silver play music for cello and piano **3.30-12.43am** As Radio 4
FM as above except: **3.30pm** Deanamaid Adhradh (s) **4.00-6.00** Options (as page 6a) **6.30-8.00** Options: **6.30** The Riddle of the Stones (new series) **7.00** Ticket to Write **7.30** Franc-Parler

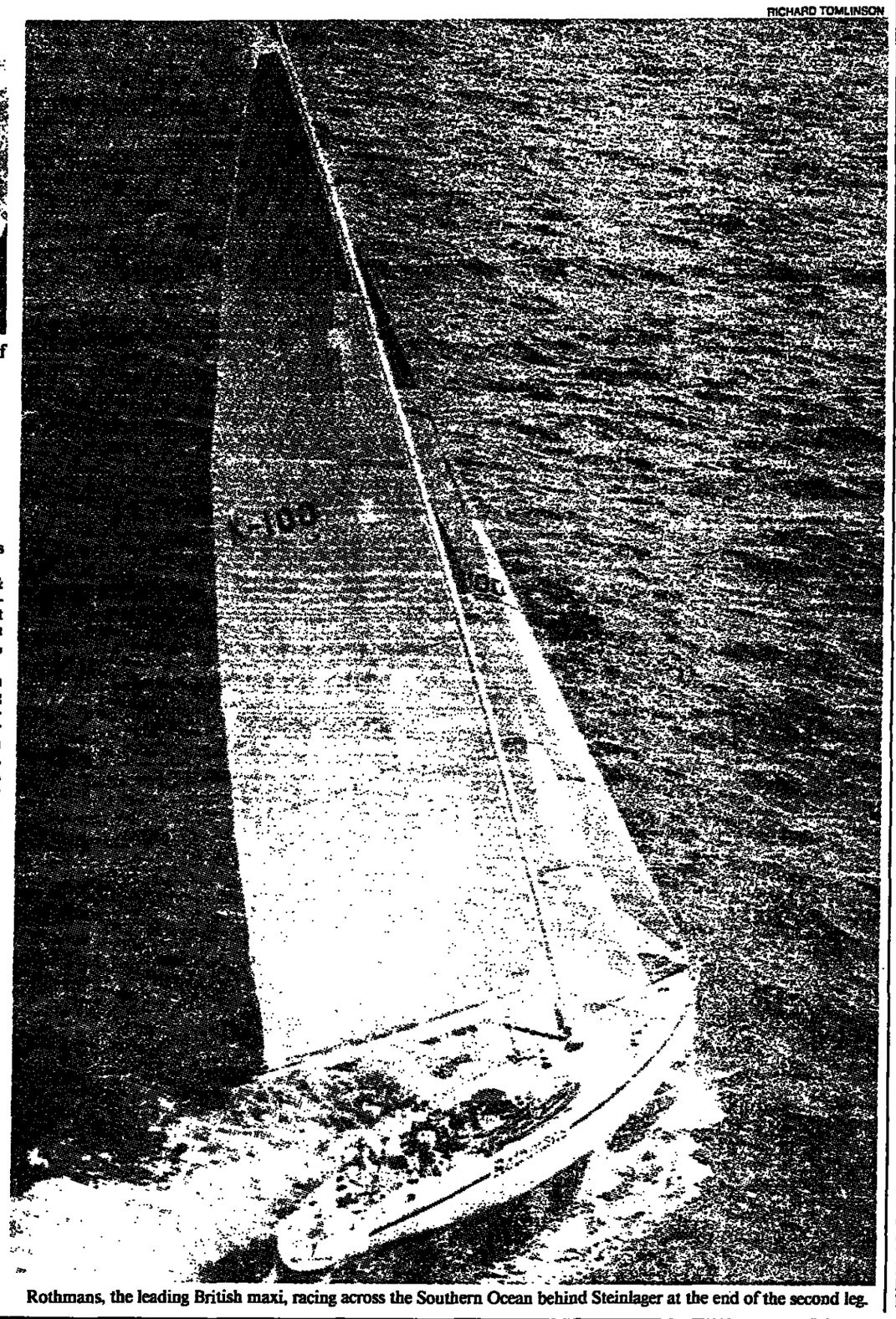
FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8 **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2. **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m; FM-90-92.4. **Radio 4:** 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. **World Service** MW 648kHz/463m. **Radio Clyde (Glasgow):** 1152kHz/261m; FM 102.5. **Radio Forth (Edinburgh):** 1548kHz/194m; FM 97.3.

Neck-and-neck to the finishing line

Peter Blake: Leading by 12 miles in dash to Fremantle.

Lawrie Smith: Skipper of Rothmans is closing fast.

RICHARD TOMLINSON



Rothmans, the leading British maxi, racing across the Southern Ocean behind Steinlager at the end of the second leg.

Britons closing on yacht race leader

From Barry Pickthall, Fremantle

The leading yachts in the Whitbread Round the World race were shaping up off Fremantle for a neck-and-neck finish last night to the second, tempestous stage of the 33,000-mile epic.

After braving storm-force winds, icebergs and giant seas — which have cost one life, led to five other man-overboard emergencies and three casualties nursing broken bones as a result of this 7,650-mile course across the Southern Ocean from Uruguay to Australia — 14 miles was all that divided the first four yachts as they match-raced the final 50 miles to the finish line.

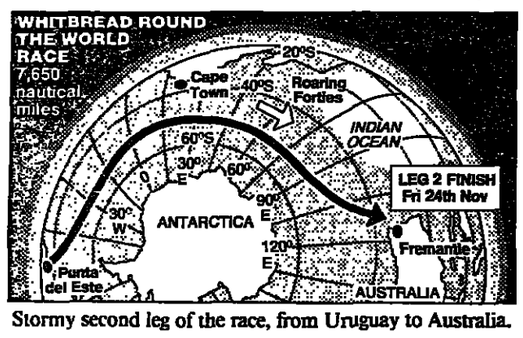
The leader by 12 miles was Peter Blake's New Zealand ketch, Steinlager 2, which won the first stage of the race, from Southampton to Uruguay.

But closing fast was Britain's leading maxi, Rothmans, skippered by Lawrie Smith, with just yards dividing her from the defending champion, Pierre Fehlmann, and his Swiss yacht, Merit.

Grant Dalton's Fisher & Paykel, the second New Zealand ketch, which led the fleet for much of this Southern Ocean leg, was in fourth place, just two miles further astern.

These four have pulled out a 200-mile lead over the chasing pack led by The Card, skippered by Sweden's Roger Nilson, which is carrying a crewman with a broken arm. Two other crew, who broke a collar bone and a leg on the Spanish maxi, Fortuna, which set a record 24-hour run of 393 miles during the worst of the weather, remain strapped in their bunks and cannot expect medical treatment until early next week.

The race continues to Auckland on December 23. The fleet of 23 then head for Cape Horn in February, and stopovers in Uruguay and Fort Lauderdale, before returning to Southampton next May.



Stormy second leg of the race, from Uruguay to Australia.

Surprise frost hits motorists

By Ruth Gledhill

The country's first serious frost of the winter caught drivers by surprise and contributed to a spate of serious accidents throughout Britain in the early hours of yesterday morning. Two men were burned in their cars.

Forecasters warn that there will be a blanket frost over most of the country this morning and tomorrow.

Yesterday the Automobile Association reported dozens of vehicles sliding off roads.

One motorist was taken to hospital with serious injuries and five cars were damaged in a multiple collision on the M25 near Byfleet, Surrey.

On the M4 in Wiltshire, a man fractured his skull when his van ran into the back of a lorry near Membury. Another driver fractured his skull after a crash between a car and a lorry on the B3075 at Spetisbury in Dorset.

A man was burned to death when a van collided with his car parked in a layby on the A1 in Cambridgeshire. A woman in the car managed to scramble clear.

On the M6 in Warwickshire, a young woman saw her boyfriend burned alive, trapped in his car after a crash.

Most major roads will be gritted today but police warned that roads could still be hazardous with drivers facing the added problem of a low, dazzling sun.

Chief Inspector Ken Langridge, of Surrey Motorway Police, said: "It is the usual story. People drive too fast and do not take account of conditions.

"People usually forget that bridges and interchanges, which are constructed of just a few feet of concrete, are colder and have more frost than ordinary roads built on solid earth. Interchanges can be half a mile long."

Central England with -6C (21F) had the worst of the cold last night.

Patchy snow and sleet was forecast for the east coast of England and Scotland, blown in from the North Sea.

Northern Scotland and the far south of England were the two places expected to escape the frost blanket this morning.

Most of the frost will clear during the day as temperatures rise to give a dry, sunny weekend for most of the country.

But rain will work its way south-east from Northern Scotland, into eastern Scotland and north-east England.

Thatcher 'never been a lame duck'

Continued from page 1

strengthened the case for a challenge.

"It has actually been made rather more relevant by Mrs Thatcher's decision," Sir Anthony said.

He added: "I do think the party ought to decide democratically now whether they do in fact want a president for life."

No other candidate has yet come forward nor has Sir Anthony received a definite offer of a proposer and seconder before nominations close on Thursday.

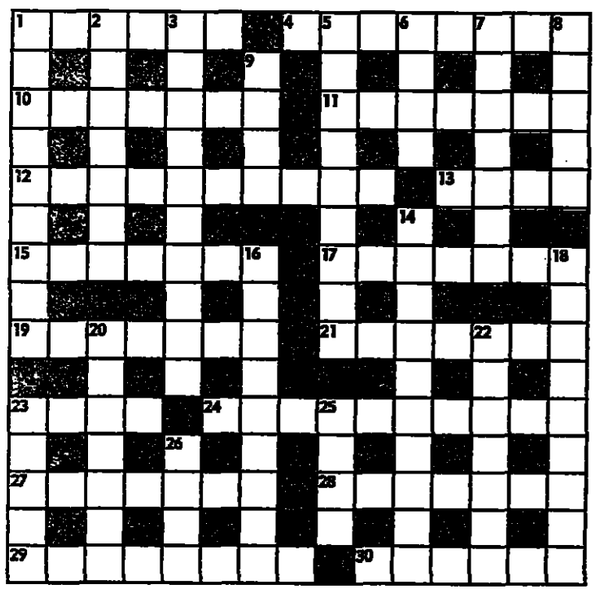
Sir Philip Goodhart, a former junior Defence Minister, announced that he is holding a referendum among the 1,965 members of his Beckenham constituency party offering a choice of Mrs Thatcher or "another member of Parliament". He has set a deadline for the morning of November 30, which coincides with the deadline for the nominations.

He insisted he does not intend to stand himself. But if the result in such a safe Conservative seat shows even a wavering in support, it is bound to cause alarm.

Meanwhile, The USA Today newspaper yesterday carried an article stating that it was a relief for Mrs Thatcher to be among friends in the United States where her popularity rating topped 60 per cent.

● The accidental transposition of a line in yesterday's Times resulted in a paragraph being wrongly attributed to the interview with Mrs Thatcher. It was Mr Michael Heseltine, not Mrs Thatcher, who said: "If Sir Anthony Meyer or anyone else decides to use the existing rules that is for them and not for me. I shall take no part in the process."

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,148



ACROSS

1 Liable to be unstable in the laboratory (6).
4 Check carpet? (8).
10 Now mixed in French cheesecake (7).
11 After midnight, the flame of Paris is magic (7).
12 Not voting for change to a round tennis bat (10).
13 Wharf is important, we hear (4).
15 Jailed ringleader is one with exclusive information (7).
17 A tight fit for a map on 28 (7).
19 Washington, possibly, without saw — a person of no importance (7).
21 Lodge outside university for the rest (7).
23 Copper points for potter's implements (4).
24 The man of the match? (10).
27 Mark under the sea, reportedly (7).
28 Swinging bar occupied by youth with bottle? (7).
29 Blade for making loops (3-5).
30 Parting words from the harpist (6).

DOWN

1 One may turn up the volume (9).
2 Garments knit, it is said, within British Standards (7).
3 The wherewithal to preserve bats (ill ones die, sadly) (7-3).
5 Note broken cog inside rev-indicator (3-6).
6 But square cuts can be made in it (4).
7 Products of culture, perhaps, getting under one's skin (7).
8 Stout one made half a turn (5).
9 Wine kept down by tough guys? (4).
14 Watch put on runners? (10).
16 Irish police in schism, looking back on arms (9).
18 Having gone off without any illusions (9).
20 "Flower of the Border" on the French pipe (7).
22 Where the bishop moves, see? (7).
23 Some spiky things in Caesar's opening to first part of play (5).
25 Business tax (4).
26 Criticism aimed at the Lancasters once? (4).

Concise crossword, page 46

Solution to Puzzle No 18,148

M	A	D	R	A	S	■	O	N	C	E	O	V	E	R
A	■	O	■	U	■	B	■	O	■	S	■	E	■	O
T	R	U	S	T	E	E	■	T	A	P	E	R	E	D
C	■	B	■	H	■	A	■	E	■	Y	■	S	■	I
H	E	L	I	O	T	R	O	P	E	■	D	O	W	N
L	■	E	■	R	■	■	■	A	■	R	■	S	■	■
O	N	T	R	I	A	L	■	P	E	G	R	A	S	S
C	■	■	■	S	■	A	■	E	■	A	■	■	■	P
K	N	A	V	E	R	Y	■	R	I	S	I	B	L	E
■	W	■	D	■	F	■	■	O	■	R	■	C	■	■
P	I	K	E	■	D	I	S	C	O	N	C	E	R	T
A	■	W	■	F	■	O	■	A	■	A	■	W	■	A
P	L	A	T	E	A	U	■	B	U	B	J	E	C	T
A	■	R	■	T	■	R	■	H	■	L	■	A	■	O
L	A	D	D	E	R	E	D	■	D	E	N	S	E	R

Solution to Puzzle No 18,143

H	A	T	T	R	I	C	K	■	A	P	I	C	E	S
E	■	R	■	A	■	O	■	H	■	O	■	U	■	I
L	E	A	R	N	■	R	O	Y	A	L	S	T	A	G
P	■	N	■	G	■	R	■	B	■	I	■	I	■	N
M	U	S	K	E	T	E	E	R	■	G	A	S	G	A
A	■	P	■	■	■	C	■	I	■	E	■	■	■	L
T	H	O	U	G	H	T	■	D	E	C	A	M	P	■
E	■	R	■	R	■	■	■	A	■	I	■	M	■	■
■	A	T	H	E	N	S	■	N	E	R	I	S	S	A
T	■	■	■	E	■	O	■	O	■	■	■	G	■	I
H	A	V	E	N	■	C	O	V	E	R	G	I	R	L
E	■	I	■	B	■	I	■	E	■	O	■	V	■	B
S	T	O	N	E	W	A	L	L	■	S	L	I	G	O
I	■	L	■	L	■	T	■	E	■	N	■	A	■	■
S	H	A	N	T	Y	■	E	Y	E	S	I	G	H	T

SHEAFFER. A prize of a distinctive Sheaffer "Targa" Regency Stripe fountain pen with a solid 14-carat gold inlaid nib will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address.....

The winners of last Saturday's competition are:F Hay, 78 Greenwood Road, London; E Coales, The Farthings, Long Green, Wortham, Diss, Norfolk; E M Badger, Loxley Road, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire; J Dawson, St Mary's Road, Oxford; M Bruce, Millbrix Avenue, Glasgow.

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

SHADDOCK
a. A smoked haddock
b. A confidence trickster
c. A large orange

AIRHEAD
a. An idiot
b. A pit ventilator
c. A control tower

MAMELON
a. The Dead Sea melon
b. A rounded hummock
c. Confused chatter

SPARTH
a. Dearth or scarcity
b. A demagogic populist
c. A battle-axe

Answers on page 14

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23- M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

WEATHER

Northern Scotland will start bright but rain or sleet may develop from mid-morning. Patchy rain will work its way south-eastwards into eastern Scotland and north-east England by evening. Most of the British Isles will have a dry, cold day with sunny spells. There will be a few showers about though, particularly near the east coast, and in the extreme south of England at first. Outlook: Staying cold.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	17	63	c	Majorca	18	64	s
Akrotiri	22	72	s	Malaga	17	63	f
Alex'dria	24	75	s	Malta	22	72	s
Algiers	22	72	f	Melb'rne	17	63	f
Amst'dm	8	46	c	Mexico C*	15	59	c
Athens	20	68	f	Miami*	31	88	s
Bahrain	24	75	s	Milan	6	43	s
Barbados*	29	84	c	Montreal*	-8	18	s
Barcelna	13	55	r	Moscow	-8	18	s
Belgrade	3	37	s	Munich	3	37	s
Berlin	2	36	c	Nairobi	23	73	f
Bermuda*	25	77	s	Naples	10	50	c
Biarritz	15	59	f	N Delhi	18	64	f
Borde'x	10	50	c	N York*	-1	30	f
Brussels	6	43	s	Nice	11	52	c
Budapst	3	37	s	Oslo	-2	28	s
B Aires*	29	84	f	Paris	7	45	s
Cairo	24	75	s	Peking	13	55	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Perth	33	91	s
C'blanca	20	68	f	Prague	1	34	f
Chicago*	2	25	c	Reykjvik	5	41	d
Ch'church	16	61	f	Rhodes	20	68	s
Cologne	5	41	c	Rio de J	31	88	f
C'phgn	-3	27	f	Riyadh	23	73	s
Corfu	20	68	f	Rome	11	52	r
Dublin	5	41	f	Salzburg	3	37	s
Dubrovnik	13	55	s	S F'risco*	12	54	c
Faro	18	64	f	Santiago*	28	82	s
Florence	10	50	c	S Paulo*	30	86	c
Frankfurt	4	39	f	Seoul	11	52	s
Funchal	19	66	c	Sing'por	31	88	f
Geneva	4	39	s	St'kholm	-7	19	s
Gibraltar	17	63	f	Strasb'rg	3	37	s
Helsinki	-10	14	sn	Sydney	26	79	f
Hong K	22	72	c	Tangier	18	64	c
Innsbruck	2	36	s	Tel Aviv	21	70	f
Istanbul	7	45	c	Tenerife	19	66	r
Jeddah	31	88	f	Tokyo	17	63	s
Jo'burg*	28	82	s	Toronto*	-9	16	s
Karachi	27	81	s	Tunis	27	81	s
L Palmas	23	73	c	Valencia	17	63	f
Le Touet	7	45	f	Vanc'ver*	8	46	r
Lisbon	15	59	f	Venice	7	45	s
L Angels*	15	59	c	Warsaw	-1	30	sn
Luxemb'g	5	41	f	Wash'ton*	0	32	f
Luxor	26	79	s	Wel'mton	15	59	r
Madrid	12	54	c	Zurich	-2	28	s

* denotes Thursday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	3.6	.01	5	41	sunny
Hunstanton	3.8	.01	6	43	bright
Cromer	2.1	.03	7	45	shower
Lowestoft	2.7	.04	8	46	bright
Clacton	7.3	-	7	45	sunny
Margate	7.6	.11	8	46	sunny
Folkestone	7.2	.06	8	46	sunny
Hastings	5.8	-	8	46	sunny
Eastbourne	6.7	-	8	46	sunny
Worthing	7.6	-	8	46	sunny
Littlehmptn	7.6	-	8	46	sunny
Leede	7.1	-	7	45	sunny
Anglesey	0.3	-	7	45	cloudy
Colwyn Bay	0.7	-	7	45	cloudy
Tenby	7.5	-	9	48	sunny
Aberdeen	-	-	6	43	cloudy
Aviemore	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	6.0	-	5	41	sunny
Glasgow	4.8	-	7	45	bright
Kinloss	-	.03	7	45	rain
Lerwick	-	.06	5	41	shower
Prestwick	4.2	-	7	45	sunny
Stornoway	-	.07	7	45	rain
Wick	-	.12	7	45	shower

These are Thursday's figures

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	5	41c		Guernsey	8	46f	
B'mngham	6	43s		Inverness	4	39f	
Blackpool	3	37f		Jersey	9	48f	
Bristol	7	45s		London	6	43f	
Cardiff	8	46s		M'nchster	3	37f	
Edinburgh	4	39f		Newcastle	5	41r	
Glasgow	5	41c		R'ildsway	8	46f	

MANCHESTER

Thursday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am,-3C (27F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.7 hr.

GLASGOW

Thursday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am,-3C (27F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 4.8 hr.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

TODAY
London 4.00 pm to 7.37 am
Bristol 4.10 pm to 7.46 am
Edinburgh 3.51 pm to 8.11 am
Manchester 3.59 pm to 7.54 am
Penzance 4.27 pm to 7.52 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Guernsey 10C (50F);lowest day max: Belfast 4C (39F) ; highest rainfall: Jersey 0.21 inhighest sunshine: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 7.9 hr.

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.53	6.4	—	—
Aberdeen	11.32	3.8	11.40	3.8
Avonmouth	4.55	11.4	5.18	11.8
Belfast	9.12	3.1	9.17	3.3
Cardiff	4.40	10.6	5.01	10.9
Devonport	3.21	4.9	3.36	5.0
Dover	9.00	6.0	9.25	5.9
Falmouth	2.51	4.7	3.06	4.8
Glasgow	11.01	4.3	10.51	4.5
Harwich	9.32	3.6	10.03	3.6
Holyhead	8.22	4.9	8.34	5.0
Hull	4.04	6.5	4.37	6.4
Ilfracombe	3.46	7.9	4.03	8.1
King's Lynn	4.08	5.6	4.39	5.7
Leith	12.18	4.9	12.41	4.9
Liverpool	9.10	8.2	9.25	8.4
Lowestoft	7.05	2.3	8.03	2.3
Margate	9.52	4.3	10.27	4.4
Milford Haven	4.06	6.0	4.23	6.1
Newquay	3.01	6.0	3.17	6.2
Oban	3.45	3.4	3.47	3.6
Penzance	2.27	4.9	2.41	5.1
Portland	4.31	1.9	4.41	1.8
Portsmouth	9.23	4.3	9.48	4.2
Shoreham	9.02	5.5	9.29	5.4
Southampton	9.02	4.1	9.20	4.0
Swansea	4.12	8.3	4.27	8.4
Tees	1.26	4.8	1.55	4.8
W'ton-on-Nze	9.29	3.8	10.02	3.8

TOMORROW	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.18	6.6	12.35	6.6
Aberdeen	—	—	12.07	3.9
Avonmouth	5.42	11.9	5.58	12.1
Belfast	9.46	3.2	9.55	3.3
Cardiff	5.27	11.1	5.43	11.3
Devonport	4.05	5.1	4.22	5.1
Dover	9.38	6.1	9.59	6.1
Falmouth	3.35	4.9	3.52	4.9
Glasgow	11.35	4.5	11.32	4.5
Harwich	10.17	3.7	10.41	3.7
Holyhead	8.56	5.1	9.10	5.1
Hull	4.47	6.7	5.11	6.7
Ilfracombe	4.26	8.2	4.41	8.3
King's Lynn	4.50	5.8	5.14	5.9
Leith	12.58	5.0	1.19	5.0
Liverpool	9.46	8.5	10.03	8.5
Lowestoft	7.50	2.3	8.35	2.3
Margate	10.34	4.4	10.59	4.5
Milford Haven	4.45	6.2	5.02	6.3
Newquay	3.38	6.3	3.54	6.3
Oban	4.21	3.6	4.22	3.7
Penzance	3.05	5.2	3.24	5.2
Portland	5.17	2.0	5.28	1.9
Portsmouth	10.00	4.4	10.24	4.4
Shoreham	9.41	5.7	10.06	5.6
Southampton	9.34	4.2	9.53	4.1
Swansea	4.49	8.6	5.05	8.7
Tees	2.05	4.9	2.25	5.0
W'ton-on-Nze	10.13	3.9	10.38	3.9

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.280ft. Times are GMT

TODAY — Sun rises: 7.35 am — Sun sets: 4.00 pm — Moon rises: 4.40 am — Moon sets: 2.07 pm — New Moon November 28

TOMORROW — Sun rises: 7.37 am — Sun sets: 3.59 pm — Moon rises: 5.52 am — Moon sets: 2.25 pm — New Moon November 28

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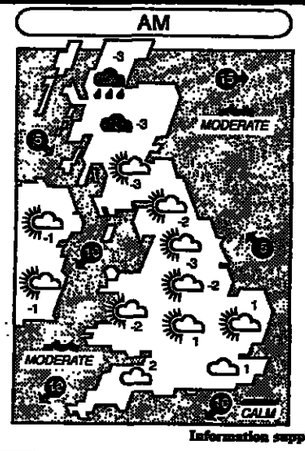
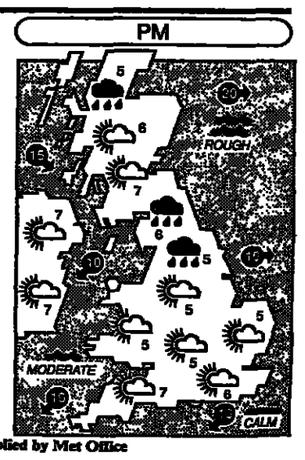
AM



PM



Information supplied by Met Office

240p

EAU DEAR?

This week the sale of water shares reaches its climax.

But which ones are worth chasing even if you don't get a customer discount?

On Friday, Investors Chronicle assesses the individual water companies.

What are their strengths and weaknesses? Where are the risks? And which will provide the real money-making opportunities?

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INVESTORS CHRONICLE
A Financial Times Magazine
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THE TIMES
MONEY
SECTION 2
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25 1989
17

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5620 (+0.0010)

W German mark
2.8194 (–0.0138)

Exchange index
86.7 (–0.3)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1754.9 (+0.8)

FT-SE 100
2222.4 (+1.9)

USM (Datastream)
148.68 (–0.70)

Market report, page 20

Bank steps in as pound falls

The pound continued to fall against the mark despite the better-than-expected trade figures. The Bank of England intervened to support the currency but by mid-afternoon the exchange rate in London was down 0.85 pfennigs at DM2.8247.

The main feature continued to be the strength of the mark, which benefited from optimism over Eastern Europe. Against the dollar, sterling was up 0.35 cent at $1.5645. The effective rate index was down 0.2 at 86.8.

The dollar/mark rate fell through the psychologically important rate of DM1.80.

Dealers said Mrs Thatcher's remarks in *The Times* on the exchange rate had not helped. She said interest rates were at 15 per cent because monetary conditions were too loose, not because of the exchange rate: "You cannot have two top priorities."

STOCK MARKETS

New York:
Dow Jones ..... 2677.47 (+20.69)*
Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 36484.47 (+197.55)
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ..... 2808.53 (+7.74)
Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency ..... 181.5 (+1.1)
Sydney: AO ..... 1615.0 (–17.0)
Frankfurt: DAX ... 1555.48 (+20.80)
Brussels:
General ..... 6574.12 (–4.45)
Paris: CAC ..... 519.7 (+1.9)
Zurich: SKA Gen ..... 616.9 (+6.1)
London:
FT—A All-Share ... 1114.00 (+0.98)
FT—"500" ..... 1217.27 (+1.48)
FT. Gold Mines ..... 296.7 (+5.3)
FT. Fixed Interest ..... 92.80 (+0.09)
FT. Govt Secs ..... 84.10 (+0.40)

Recent issues Page 18
Closing prices Page 21

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
Bass ..... 986p (+11p)
Morgan Grenfell ..... 469½p (+10p)
Standard Chart ..... 549½p (+15p)
Conder Group ..... 865p (+20p)
Steetley ..... 370p (+13p)
Burmah ..... 674½p (+12p)
Monotype ..... 154½p (+45p)
Etam ..... 183½p (+11p)
Tex Holdings ..... 207p (+27p)
VSEL ..... 416½p (+16p)
J Smurfit ..... 571p (+13p)
Boosey & Hawkes ..... 425p (+10p)

FALLS:
Rosehaugh ..... 466p (–56p)
L Joseph ..... 422½p (–12p)
Edbro ..... 245p (–55p)
IMI ..... 195p (–12p)
J Wilkes ..... 213½p (–31p)
Capital Radio ..... 900p (–73p)
Quadrant Group ..... 185p (–10p)
P&O ..... 545p (–11p)
4pm prices
Bargains 29956
SEAQ Volume 412.9m

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank $15\frac{1}{32}$–15%
3-month eligible bills: $14\frac{17}{32}$–$14\frac{7}{16}$%
US: Prime Rate 10½%
Federal Funds $8\frac{3}{16}$%*
3-month Treasury Bills 7.47-7.45%*
30-year bonds $102\frac{31}{32}$–$103\frac{1}{32}$*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.5620	£: $1.5625*
$: DM2.8194	$: DM1.8050*
£: SwFr2.5109	$: SwFr1.6148*
£: FFr9.6079	$: FFr6.1590*
£: Yen223.99	$: Yen143.48*
£: Index:86.7	$: Index:69.3
ECU £0.72359	SDR £n/a
£: ECU1.38199	£: SDRn/a

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $415.80 pm-$415.80
close $416.00-416.50 (£266.25-266.75)
New York:
Comex $416.10-416.60*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan) ... $18.40 bbl ($18.37)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.06	1.92
Austria Sch	20.70	19.50
Belgium Fr	62.30	58.40
Canada $	1.908	1.798
Denmark Kr	11.41	10.81
Finland Mrk	6.93	6.53
France Fr	10.05	9.45
Germany Dm	2.94	2.77
Greece Dr	272.75	252.75
Hong Kong $	12.88	11.98
Ireland Pt	1.123	1.053
Italy Lire	2180	2050
Japan Yen	239	223
Netherlands Gld	3.32	3.12
Norway Kr	11.23	10.57
Portugal Esc	256	240
South Africa Rd	4.40	4.00
Spain Pta	189	177
Sweden Kr	10.47	9.87
Switzerland Fr	2.635	2.475
Turkey Lira	4110	3530
USA $	1.65	1.55
Yugoslavia Dnr	refer	80000

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers cheques.
Retail Price Index: 117.5 (October)

☆☆☆☆☆☆ RM

Study suggests EC takeover moves may be unenforceable

Merger rules in doubt

By David Young

New rules planned by the EC to make hostile takeovers easier throughout Europe could be unenforceable, according to consultants examining the issue for the Department of Trade and Industry.

EC moves have already received an official warm welcome from Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Trade Secretary.

However, an analysis of European company law and company culture — prepared by Coopers & Lybrand for Mr Ridley's own department and published less than 24 hours after the EC outlined plans for new merger rules — says the EC lacks the resources to ensure the rules are obeyed.

Coopers & Lybrand adds: "In addition, the European Court of Justice has jurisdiction only over member states for failure to implement legislation. The Court has no jurisdiction over non-compliance by companies."

The report said any analysis of the extent to which takeover barriers are dealt with by adopted or proposed directives should be approached with caution.

It adds that while government- and company-imposed barriers to takeovers will be affected by EC legislation "compliance remains, and is likely to continue to be, a quite different matter."

Moves to remove obstacles are being planned by Herr Martin Bangemann, the internal market commissioner, and Sir Leon Brittan, the competition commissioner.

They follow complaints by the Confederation of British Industry that while UK companies are open takeover targets by European companies, it is often difficult for UK companies to bid sucessfully for a European competitor. In fact, Coopers & Lybrand found that 75 per cent of takeovers in Europe take place in Britain and that large companies in Britain are more vulnerable to takeover than their European counterparts.

The report found many British companies are being hampered in their preparations to meet the challenges of 1992 by unnecessary barriers.

And according to the report, while Britain has acquired a large number of European small and medium-sized companies, there are legislative and regulatory barriers — as well as barriers in business culture — which make it difficult for British companies to make large acquisitions.

The analysis will form the basis of the Goverment's continuing campaign to bring changes in EC competition policy and to harmonize some aspects of company law.

However, Mr John Redwood, the Minister for Corporate Affairs, said yesterday that Britain would never use any of the evidence uncovered in the report to use similar methods to block any takeover bid for a UK company.

He also said that Britain will retain the right to veto any changes in EC merger policy that "have the slightest smack of creating a fortress Europe" or any form of protectionism.

"The report identifies practices which frustrate the efforts of UK companies wanting to expand in the EC."

Particular problems identified in the report are departures from the one share, one vote principle; automatic casting of proxy votes; the defences managements can erect during takeovers without reference to shareholders.

The EC is to carry out its own investigation. It will use the British research to help draw up an EC action plan.

● The DTI has issued a dispensation on its takeover rules forbidding share-dealing by bidder or target company in either company's shares during a Monopolies Commission investigation. The ruling will not apply to intra-group dealings in the shares of affiliates.

Inquiry into Coats-Tootal dropped

Brussels (Reuter) — The European Commission has dropped an investigation of Coats Viyella's purchase of Tootal Group because it does not fall within the scope of a proposed common European Community mergers policy that is still under negotiation by governments.

The Commission said the decision marked the first time it had overtly applied criteria foreseen in the yet-to-be-agreed policy to a merger case.

It said the Coats Viyella-Tootal tie-up was not caught by the proposed mergers regulation as more than two-thirds of the companies' combined turnover was in Britain alone.

"Accordingly, the file on the merger was closed and the matter was left to the relevant bodies in the member states to investigate," the European Commission said in a statement.

The Department of Trade and Industry cleared the takeover last month on condition that Coats Viyella disposed of a number of assets.

Ramsden rescued as Fyshe chips in

By Neil Bennett

The start of dealings in Harry Ramsden, the £8 million chip shop, was a triumph of Yorkshire investor confidence ... with the help of a Fyshe from Birmingham.

The shares rose to an 11p premium over their 100p issue price, in contrast to recent poor trading in smaller companies.

Ramsden — 2.6 times oversubscribed thanks to strong support from neighbours of its restaurant in Guiseley, Leeds — could have suffered a last-minute disaster when CL Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank announced it was pulling out of market-making.

City jobs go.....19

Laing was one of only two firms which had agreed to deal in the shares. Without it, trading could have dried up quickly.

Luckily, Fyshe Horton Finney, the Birmingham market-maker, agreed to trade the shares.

But there are fears the growing number of market-maker closures could make parts of the stock market untradeable. Laing's closure means many smaller company shares now only have one market-maker. Winterflood Securities, the smaller company specialist market-maker, is now the sole trader in more than 25 stocks.

Mr Brian Winterflood believes this is halting effective dealing in these stocks. "If you become the only man on the street, there's no street," he said. "Without competing market-makers, people don't deal, and corporate finance interest dries up."

BA sells 'oddball' jets for $300m

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

British Airways is about to finalize an astonishing deal to sell its five remaining British Caledonian "jumbo" jets for more than $300 million (£192 million) — a price which has stunned the aviation world.

The aircraft — all Boeing 747-200s up to 17 years old — have been a thorn in BA's side since it acquired them from B-Cal two years ago. They are powered by Pratt & Whitney or General Electric engines rather than Rolls-Royce like the rest of the fleet. And they have a different seating arrangement from the remaining 747s, denting the single corporate image BA has been trying to create and resulting in costly maintenance and operating changes.

Four of the aircraft are to be bought by Potomac Capital Investments, a US finance and leasing company, and the fifth to All Nippon Airways.

Although it had been widely predicted that BA would sell the "oddball" jets when the right opportunity arose, the surge in demand for air travel, with a shortage of 747 capacity, led many experts to believe BA would hold on to the jets.

The Boeing strike, which has delayed delivery of new aircraft by at least two months has, however, pushed up world demand and prices, enabling Potomac to make an offer BA could not refuse.

Although the contract has not yet formally been signed, BA executives in America hope to be able to clinch the deal within the next few days.

Four of the aircraft were held on operating leases which are in the process of being unwound. A new Boeing 747-400 — of which BA has taken five with a further 15 on order and 12 more options — costs about $125 million, so an average price of $60 million each for five aircraft, none of which is less than 10 years old, is regarded as an enormous coup.

BA last night refused to comment on the deal or to discuss prices in detail but a spokesman described the proposed sale as "part of our normal fleet renewal plans."

Loud and clear: Mr Ashley Ward, left, and Mr Keith Mellors, who are bringing the enlarged loudspeaker company to market

Wharfedale in reverse Audio takeover

By Our City Staff

Wharfedale, the loudspeaker group, is to come to the stock market via a reverse takeover of Audio Fidelity, the struggling electronics group, which has slid into loss and suffered from boardroom rifts in the past year.

Mr Ashley Ward and Mr Keith Mellors, the management duo who bought into Wharfedale in 1987, will control the enlarged group, which is raising £2.3 million net of expenses from shareholders.

Audio shareholders are to be asked to put up the money in a five-for-three rights issue at 11p a share against the 21p price just before the shares were suspended at the close last night.

The new directors intend to sell the loss-making Captain Billy's Music, Trolborne Limited and Lion Management to the present managers.

Mr Ward, chairman of Wharfedale and chief executive of the new group, said: "Audio Fidelity have experienced considerable difficulties over the past two years.

"We believe that the benefits from combining the two companies and introducing new management will provide shareholders with a more stable future. The new group will comprise Wharfedale, and three of Audio Fidelity's subsidiaries, Fane Acoustics, McKenzie Acoustics, and Fanfare Electronics.

"In 1988, we identified the commercial loudspeaker market as an area of significant growth. This market has natural, logical extensions into the professional audio sector addressed by Fane and McKenzie.

"We see substantial quality and efficiency gains, and cost savings from the integration of these businesses into our existing operations." Mr Peter Woodward, deputy chairman of Audio Fidelity, said: "The group will benefit from the injection of new business and a new management team. We believe this agreement with Wharfedale is in the best interests of shareholders, customers and employees."

In 1988, Mr Stephen Goldberg, the former Audio Fidelity chairman, was dismissed after a dispute over accounting policies and the finance director, Mr Anthony Lascelle, stepped down. Pre-tax losses were £2.34 million and an accounting discrepancy of £527,000 was investigated by accountants.

Ferrari-MBS merger talks

MBS and Ferrari, two computer services groups, yesterday revealed they are holding talks which may lead to a merger of the two groups.

Shares in the loss-making MBS rose 1p to 23p on the news and Ferrari rose ¼p to 8½p. MBS suffered a £7.1 million pre-tax loss in the first half of 1989. Ferrari, this week, paid £1 for a struggling supplier of services to estate agents.

Recently, Ferrari made a £4.5 million rights issue to raise money for the reorganization of UCL, acquired for £4 million in October.

Barclays sells US stake for $150m

By Neil Bennett

Barclays Bank is selling a third of BarclaysAmericanCorporation, its troubled US subsidiary for $150 million (£95 million) in cash to Primerica Corporation, the US financial services group.

Barclays is now thought to be negotiating the sale of Barclays Bank of Delaware, the private label credit card business, and its last major consumer banking offshoot in the US. The bank is selling BarclaysAmerican/Financial, a consumer loans specialist, with 220 branches in 29 states.

BAF, a third of Barclays' US business, made provisions estimated at more than $50 million against bad debts on mobile homes. Barclays is making a profit of $50 million on the sale. Since then it has been turned round and concentrates on instalment and home equity borrowers, with a loan book of $1.3 billion.

Barclays is to concentrate on corporate and commercial banking in the US. After the disposal it will be left with assets of $3.9 billion.

A mis-timing in the announcement of the BAF sale sent Barclays' up 6p to 536p, as the news was published in New York more than ten minutes before it appeared in London because of a delay in the Topic service. Dealers thought the entire BAC had been sold, and marked Barclays' up. The shares settled to 527p on clarification of the report.

Revenue recovers £2.3bn tax

By Our Financial Staff

The Inland Revenue raised £2.35 billion in 1988-89 from taxpayers and companies who had not declared or paid their full liabilities. Tackling non-compliance contributed 3.4 per cent of the total tax income of £69 billion, the annual report of the Inland Revenue disclosed.

Tax income amounted to more than £1 million per employee.

The report says that the Revenue's valuation officers are well up to schedule in revaluing 1.8 million commercial premises for the introduction of the national business rate when local rates are abolished in the next financial year.

Copper mine threatened by bows, arrows and bombs

Bougainville mothball fears

By Colin Campbell
Mining Correspondent

The world of mining is one of paradox. Peace pipes are being smoked in New Mexico, to celebrate Richmond Oil & Gas's joint venture agreement with the Jicarilla Indians to develop gas fields and oil wells in Jicarilla territory after 18 months of negotiations.

On the other side of the world, on the island of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, CRA officials and workers at the Bougainville copper-gold-silver mine fear for their lives. Daily they have to take cover from hostile tribes armed with spears, bows, arrows — and bombs.

The fate of Bougainville Copper, which is 53.6 per cent owned by CRA, the Australian mining group, and responsible for 2.5 per cent of the western world's copper supplies, will be decided at a special board meeting on Wednesday.

The Bougainville operation, which should produce 600,000 tonnes of copper concentrate a year, with gold and silver as by-products, is threatened with being mothballed, and staff — already down from 3,500 to 2,500 — with redundancy. So far this year, only 222,000 tonnes have been produced.

Production has been halted since May because of attacks on personnel and property. A state of emergency was declared after electricity pylons were toppled by explosives and workers murdered, and lost revenue is running into millions. The death toll until mid-October was 41, including eight PNG soldiers.

It is odds-on that Bougainville, in which Aus$3 billion (£1.5 billion) has been invested, will be mothballed because of the intolerable conditions. The company has already declared *force majeur*. The disturbances stem from a dispute involving Bougainville's owners, workers, local land owners wanting vast compensation payments and the central government at Port Moresby. They have taken their toll in millions.

CRA's investment in Bougainville was valued at about Aus$280 million in December — but even that valuation is threatened unless CRA is prepared to put more money into Bougainville.

The cost of the mine's closure since May has been estimated at Aus$7.5 million a month. In addition, the company has foregone a profit of almost Aus$3 million a week. Redundancy payments for remaining staff could add up to Aus$30 million.

If Bougainville were to be re-opened, it would take at least six months to get the plant running again at a cost of tens of millions of dollars.

Wednesday's decision will have follow-on investment implications for other world mining groups operating in Papua New Guinea — including RTZ, MIM, Placer Dome and Renison Goldfields Corporation.

The paradox in the world of mining was evident in share prices yesterday. Bougainville traded at 82p — near its year's low. Richmond Oil & Gas was at 89

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Bremner in £1.7m auditor's warning

By Philip Pangalos

Peat Marwick McLintock, the auditor of Bremner, the Glasgow property and financial services group, has warned shareholders of a contingent liability for legal claims in excess of £1.7 million.

These claims are being resisted by Bremner's directors and the company has not increased the provision of £100,000 for future legal costs.

The company reported pretax profits of £38,000 for the year to end-May, compared with £187,000 for the previous 17 months.

Turnover for the year was £482,000, against £780,000 for the previous 17 months, and gross profit came to £482,000, against £607,000. Earnings per share before the extraordinary item fell from 0.55p for the 17 months to 0.19p for the year, while the loss per share after extraordinary items is 2.49p, against 3.10p.

The company is confident about the future after a board restructuring, and efforts to reduce administrative expenditure. Shares eased 2p to 63p.

Attwoods' US presence grows with $65m deal

By Colin Campbell

Attwoods, the aggregates and waste disposal group where Mr Denis Thatcher is deputy chairman, is expanding further into the US with a $65 million (£41.5 million) acquisition of Mindis Industrial Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia.

Attwoods will pay an initial $18 million — of which $15 million will be via shares and $3 million cash — and, depending of the level of Mindis's profits, may be called to pay up to a further $47 million.

The potential additional payment — which will be based on a price earnings ratio of 10 — can, at Attwoods' option, be made in either cash or Attwoods' shares.

Mindis operates a network of facilities in various states, including 11 recyling and processing locations, 21 satellite stations and one warehouse and distribution facility.

Attwoods currently operates a number of municipal contracts in Florida for the collection and sale of recyclable products, and the Mindis deal is expected to help the group win further contracts.

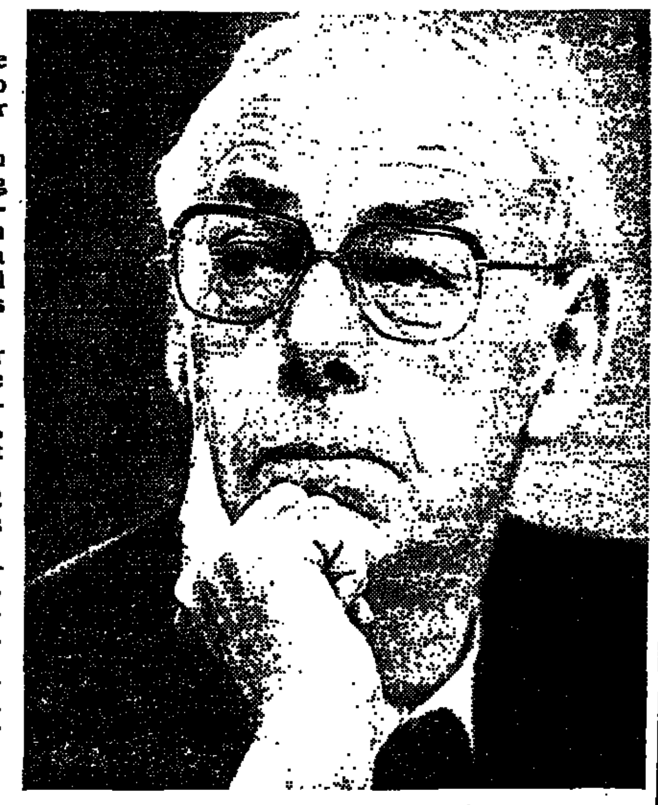
A bloc of 2.39 million Attwoods shares are being placed with institutional investors to raise the $3 million cash element needed and a further £8 million which will be used to reduce Mindis's indebtedness.

Pre-tax profits of Mindis for the year to end-February were $1.6 million, and for the 17-month period ending July 31, 1990, profits are forecast at $3.7 million.

Net assets totalled $2.2 million at end-February this year.

Attwoods, in which a 24 per cent stake is held by Laidlaw Industries of Canada, recently turned in disappointing results for the year ended July. The group added yesterday that there has been no significant change in the financial or trading position of the group since its latest report.

Attwoods shares fell 9p to 431p.



Looking for more US contracts: Denis Thatcher, of Attwoods

Profits fall at Tokyo banks

By Neil Bennett

Tokyo's five leading city banks have seen their interim profits fall for the first time in a decade, and are predicting a further collapse in their full-year figures.

The banks are being hit by rising interest rates, changes in accounting standards, and write-offs for Mexican debt.

The banks, Dai-Ichi Kangyo, Fuji, Mitsubishi, Sanwa and Sumitomo, all reported a fall in net income in the half year to end-September. Mitsubishi, for example, saw net income fall 2 per cent to Y80.4 billion (£357 million). But, all of them have reported a 13 per cent rise in their dividend to Y4.25.

The root of the banks' problems is a change in the guidelines from the finance ministry on accounting for equity trading profits. In the past, the banks have boosted profits by selling some of their huge share portfolios, which are kept in the balance sheet at modest historical costs. The ministry now says these profits must be accounted for separately.

The decision could not have come in a worse year. The banks' interest margins have been squeezed by the rising rates. Many of their loans are on fixed rates, making it difficult to compensate for the increased cost of raising funds.

The banks also agree that the situation is not likely to improve in the second half. All five have lowered their profits forecasts by as much as 18 per cent. Now Mitsubishi expects full net profits of Y140 billion, down from its previous forecast of Y170 billion. This is 16 per cent lower than last year's profits of Y167 billion.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange reacted with its usual cheerfulness in the face of adversity, and marked the banks' shares up after the news. All are still on p/e ratios above 40.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

BAT to shed 600 jobs as two factories close

British American Tobacco, a subsidiary of BAT Industries, is closing two of its cigarette-manufacturing factories with the loss of almost 600 jobs. A spokeswoman for BAT said the decision had been made before Sir James Goldsmith's Hoylake consortium made its bid and had nothing to do with BAT's "unbundling" plans, announced in September. In Liverpool, 476 jobs will be lost when the factory there closes in February.

The Liverpool factory, which produces 4 billion Benson & Hedges, John Player and Embassy cigarettes a year for the export market, is BAT's oldest factory and £20 million has been spent in efforts to modernize it since 1983. Another 123 jobs will be lost in Amsterdam with the closure of the BAT factory there. All BAT's British cigarette production will come from its Southampton factory from next year where production is expected to increase to 14.5 billion a year.

Adsteam lifts bank stake

The Adelaide Steamship Co group has raised its stake in National Australia Bank to 13.23 per cent from 12.14 per cent. The stake, held through a network of companies, including Adsteam and its associates David Jones, National Consolidated and Vaniro Pty, involves a total of 119.7 million shares, David Jones said. Adsteam had held 14.9 per cent of NAB, but this was diluted to 12.14 per cent.

OFT clears Vickers bid

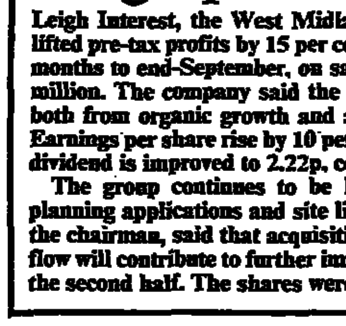
Vickers' £108 million agreed bid for Ross Catherall, the precision alloy casting group, has been cleared by the Office of Fair Trading. The Department of Trade will not be referring the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The offer was made by the Rolls-Royce cars and tanks group on October 24 and went unconditional on November 15.

Ibex shares slide 25%

Ibex, the recruitment consultancy and employment agency which joined the USM in April, saw £4.5 million wiped off its stock market value yesterday when the shares fell 25 per cent after a profits warning.

Ibex said pre-tax profits for the year to December were likely to be less than the £1.96 million made last year. The shares fell 33p to 100p. Analysts are not expecting profits of less than £1.85 million for the current year. The group increased its interim profits by 30 per cent to £1.01 million in the six months to June. Ibex said: "Whilst operating profits for the year are expected to remain ahead of 1988, higher financial costs may reduce profits before tax."



Power calls for cash

Power Corporation, is raising Ir£40.6 million in a Ir120p two-for-five rights issue to finance a further stake in Two Rodeo Drive. Power forecasts not less than Ir£10 million pre-tax for the year. The board of Power, headed by Mr Robin Power, left, as chairman and chief executive, has agreed with Amec to buy a further 41.66 per cent of the Malkin-Power Amec partnership which owns 40 per cent of Rodeo.

Leigh profits up 15%

Leigh Interest, the West Midlands waste treatment group, lifted pre-tax profits by 15 per cent to £3.47 million in the six months to end-September, on sales up 25 per cent to £30.39 million. The company said the improved results have come both from organic growth and acquisitions made this year. Earnings per share rise by 10 per cent to 7.7p and the interim dividend is improved to 2.22p, compared to 2.02p last time.

The group continues to be held back by a backlog of planning applications and site licences. Mr Malcolm Wood, the chairman, said that acquisitions and consents starting to flow will contribute to further improvement in performance in the second half. The shares were unchanged at 295p.

Matheson cancels offshoot sale plan

Hong Kong (Reuter) — Jardine Matheson Holdings, which has a stock exchange listing in the Crown Colony, has announced the cancellation of the proposed sale of Matheson PFC, its personal financial consulting company.

Jardin Matheson said sale negotiations had been taking place, but Matheson PFC would now be retained as part of Jardine Pacific's Financial Services Group.

Jardine Pacific, the regional marketing arm of Jardine Matheson, was formed in January this year.

Analysts believe it could be the next Jardine Matheson division to be spun off

According to the company announcement, Jardine Pacific (JP) will receive intensified focus — through the appointment of Mr William Courtauld as its first director in charge of financial and property services.

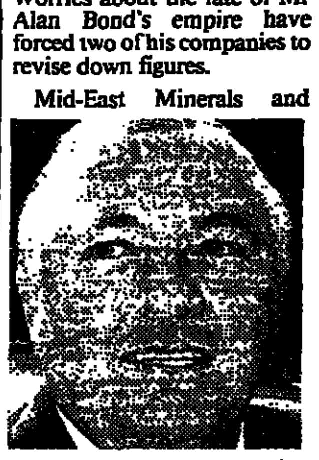
Mr Paul Tagg, who has been working in the unit trust department of Matheson PFC for the past two years, has replaced Mr Bill Glover as Matheson PFC's managing director.

Bond companies revise figures down

From Martin Winn, Sydney

Worries about the fate of Mr Alan Bond's empire have forced two of his companies to revise down figures.

Mid-East Minerals and Metals Exploration told the Australian Stock Exchange they had revised down earnings to reflect losses on their holdings of convertible notes in Bond Corporation, Mr Bond's flagship.



Bond: back from suspension

The news came as Bond Corp and Bell Group, its subsidiary, were reinstated on the stock market after being suspended for failing to despatch annual reports on time.

Mid-East Minerals has lifted losses by Aus$66 million (£32.9 million) over the preliminary deficit of Aus$7.4 million. Metals Exploration wiped Aus$92 million off its initially reported profit of Aus$63 million.

Wilkes pays £15m for Hollis offshoot

By Philip Pangalos

Shares in James Wilkes dropped 31p to 214p following a report that Wilkes is planning to acquire Floform from Hollis Industries for £15 million.

This will be satisfied by a rights issue of 7.31 million new ordinary shares.

The acquisitive Sheffield consumer products-to-engineering group, which is said to be the world's largest beermat manufacturer, is offering existing shareholders 8.16 million new ordinary shares at 205p per share.

This represents 7.31 million shares to finance the acquisition and a further 845,000 new shares by way of the rights issue on the basis of one new ordinary share for each one existing ordinary share held.

Floform, which supplies spark plug electrodes to the automotive industry together with heat sink components for semi-conductors, will be amalgamated with the engineered products division of James Wilkes.

Floform's pre-tax profit has been warranted to be at least £2.8 million for the year to end-December.

The forecast final dividend of 4.75p per James Wilkes ordinary share represents total dividends of 9p for the year to end-December.

Venezuela plans $670m buy during debt talks

When Venezuela's state-owned oil company announced this month that it would spend $675 million (£431 million) to buy the 50 per cent of Citgo Petroleum Corp. it does not already own, Venezuela's bankers, to whom the country owes more than $21 billion, were stunned.

In the middle of already-difficult talks with a government pushing for significant debt reduction, out of the blue it appears that the same government can afford more than half a billion dollars for an oil company.

And no banker failed to note that the $675 million price tag was just a little more than the $600 million interim loan the bankers granted Venezuela at the end of September. "The timing was horrendous," said one banker, but added that the deal itself was not a bad idea.

Venezuela is the fourth country to go to the negotiating table under the Bush administration's Brady plan. The strategy emphasizes debt reduction as a way to deal with the developing world's massive debt burden. These talks could be the most difficult to date and will test the commitment of the Bush administration, the flexibility of the commercial banks and the ingenuity of the Venezuelans. A big difference in the talks from those completed with Mexico, the Philippines and Costa Rica, is that many bankers do not think Venezuela needs significant debt reduction or much assistance. Venezuela disagrees.

"We still have to convince them of the need," says Señor Miguel Rodriguez, minister in charge of the negotiating team.

There is an argument that from the pure cash point of view Venezuela does not have a financial need, but that politically it does.

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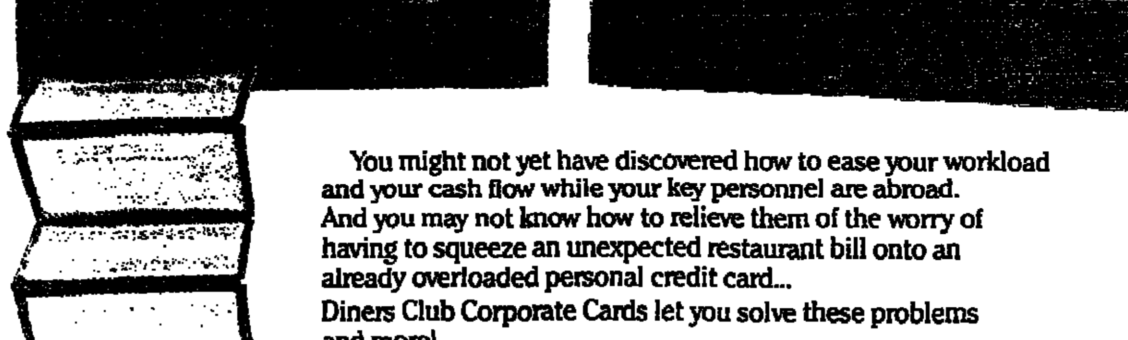

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LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Alld Lyon (*473)	420	63	80	88	4	9	14
	460	33	55	61	14	20	30
	500	12½	32	41	38	40	50
Bass (*886)	900	95	-	-	10	-	-
	950	60	95	120	30	32	40
	1000	32	68	95	53	60	65
Boots (*258)	240	24	33	38	5	8	13
	260	11	22	27	15	18	21
	280	5	13½	18	29	31	33
Brit Air (*205)	180	28	35	39	1½	4	5½
	200	14	21	25½	7	9	13
	220	4½	11	15½	19	20	24
Brit Com (*82)	80	10	15	19	8	11	15
	90	5½	9	13	15	18	20
	100	3	7	10	22	23	27
BP (*308)	280	35	44	48	2½	6	10
	300	19	27	35	7	11	13
	330	4½	11	19	22	23	26
Brit Steel (*126)	120	8	12½	15½	2½	3½	6½
	135	1½	5	-	12	13	-
	145	1	2½	-	22	22	-
C & W (*472)	460	35	55	65	16	25	30
	500	16	36	48	40	45	50
	550	4½	20	30	83	86	84
Cons Gold (*1480)	1450	20	-	-	5	-	-
	1500	4	-	-	45	-	-
Com Union (*450)	390	72	79	-	3	8	-
	420	45	53	62	6	13	14
	460	19	26	39	19	29	31
Courtauld (*350)	330	30	43	49	8	11	16
	360	12	25	32	22	24	30
	390	4	13	21	47	47	50
GKN (*379)	380	32	42	55	5	14	18
	390	14	24	38	20	30	31
	420	6	14	27	45	48	51
Grand Met (*537)	500	59	72	80	7½	17	23
	550	27	42	59	26	40	45
	600	9	23	-	85	70	-
ICI (*1105)	1050	90	112	134	15	37	44
	1100	55	78	104	32	57	65
	1150	35	52	78	62	87	90
Jaguar (*833)	800	48	50	50	9	8	10
	850	2	3	3	20	20	20
	900	1	1	1½	70	70	70
Kingfisher (*288)	260	35	46	49	2½	7	10
	280	20	32	37	8	14	16
	300	9	22	27	19	21	25
Ladbroke (*295)	275	33	-	-	4½	-	-
	300	16	28	34	14	18	24
	325	6	-	-	33	-	-
Land Sec (*498)	460	52	72	77	5	9	16
	500	24	43	52	20	25	32
	550	7	22	30	57	60	64
M & S (*195)	180	22	29	32	2½	4	6
	200	7½	17	20	10	12	13
	220	2	7	-	26	26	-
STC (*278)	280	15	22	31	13	19	22
	300	8	15	21	27	32	34
	330	2	7½	-	57	57	-
Sainsbury (*254)	240	20	29	36	5	7	8
	260	8	17	22	13	15	17
	280	3	9	13	30	31	32
Shell (*437)	390	63	68	78	3½	7	12
	420	38	42	55	8	15	23
	460	12	19	30	28	31	38
Smkl Beech (*551)	541	34	-	-	16	-	-
	600	9	25	-	53	55	-
	650	3	12	-	102	102	-
Storehse (*117)	100	21	24	26	2	5	6
	110	14	19	21	4½	8	9
	120	6½	12½	16	9	11	15
Trafalgar (*329)	300	34	44	-	6	9	-
	317	19	-	-	12	-	-
	347	8	-	-	32	-	-
Ultramar (*337)	300	49	58	67	4	9	12
	330	27	38	48	12	19	23
	360	10	23	33	28	35	37
Unilever (*664)	600	79½	89½	105	5½	13½	17½
	650	36½	56	72½	19½	30	33½
	700	13	32½	48	50½	57½	60½
Utd Bisc (*350)	330	36	43	53	5	9	12
	360	16	25	35	16	23	23
	390	7	15	-	40	42	-
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAA (*362)	330	41	54	61	6	8½	12
	360	20	35	43	16	21	25
	390	9½	21	29	38	40	42
BAT Ind (*786)	700	106	133	153	10	23	24
	750	72	100	117	20	37	43
	800	40	69	78	47	65	70
BTR (*421)	390	53	62	75	7	12	15
	420	32	43	55	16	23	27
	460	14	25	35	39	45	48
Brit Aero (*516)	500	53	63	75	18	28	34
	550	24	40	52	45	53	58
	600	13	25	-	85	87	-
Brit Tele (*265)	240	30	40	45	3	4½	6½
	260	15	25½	30	7½	9	12
	280	6½	15	18½	20	21	23
Cadbury (*334)	330	31	40	53	13	23	25
	360	16	28	37	31	38	40
	390	8	17	-	57	57	-
Guinness (*592)	550	68	82	98	9	17	20
	600	35	50	68	25	35	37
	650	17	28	-	60	63	-
GEC (*213)	200	22	29	35	4	6	8½
	220	9	17	23	13	14	17
	240	4	9	14	28	28	30
Hanson (*223)	200	24½	33	37	3½	5½	7
	220	12	21	25½	10	12½	14½
	240	5	12½	16½	27	28	28
LASMO (*538)	460	98	115	127	4	9	12
	500	68	85	100	10	18	23
	550	35	55	70	32	38	42

	Series	Calls Feb	Calls May	Calls Aug	Puts Feb	Puts May	Puts Aug
P & O (*545)	550	34	45½	58½	25½	37	40½
	600	14½	24½	37½	59½	68½	70½
	650	5½	12½	-	107½	108½	-
Pilkington (*241)	200	44	53	-	1½	3½	-
	220	28	37	42	5	8	10
	240	16	26	28	13	16	19
Plessey (*288)	240	-	-	-	½	-	-
	260	11	-	-	½	-	-
	280	½	½	-	-	-	-
Prudential (*205)	180	34	36	41	3	4	6
	200	18	21	27	8	10	13
	220	9	11	-	17	19	-
Racal (*241)	210	44	52	-	4½	7	-
	230	28	39	-	10	13	-
	250	16	-	-	19	-	-
RTZ (*527)	493	60	-	-	7	-	-
	542	27	-	-	27	-	-
	600	8	18	-	77	77	-
Scot & New (*345)	330	37	53	60	16	22	28
	360	23	38	45	32	38	43
	390	13	27	-	48	55	-
Tesco (*186)	160	33	36½	40½	2	3½	4½
	180	17½	22½	27½	6	8½	10
	200	7½	12½	17½	17½	19½	20½
	Series	Jan	Mar	Jun	Jan	Mar	Jun
Abbey Nat (*157)	130	33	34	-	1½	2	-
	140	24	25	29	2	3	5
	160	7	11	14	8	11	14
Ferranti (*46)	45	6½	9½	12	3½	4	5½
	50	4	6	7½	6½	7½	8½
	60	1½	3½	4	14½	15½	17
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
ASDA (*127)	120	14	18	23	5	8	11
	130	9	13	18	9	13	15
	140	3½	9	13	16	19	21
	Series	Jan	Mar	May	Jan	Mar	May
Polly Peck (*376)	330	55	65	74½	5	9½	13
	360	32½	44½	55	13½	19½	23
	390	17½	29	39½	28½	35	38½
	Series	Dec	Feb	Apr	Dec	Feb	Apr
Reuters (*917)	850	76½	104½	120½	4½	14	23½
	900	37½	70	88½	16	31	40
	950	14½	44½	62½	44½	56½	65
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Amstrad (*42)	35	7½	11	13	2½	5	6
	40	4½	7½	11	4½	6½	8
	45	2½	5½	8	8½	10	12
Barclays (*525)	460	72	82	95	3	8	11
	500	38	60	68	6	18	20
	550	8	25	38	30	35	40
Blue Circ (*214)	200	18	29	32	2½	6	12
	220	7	18	21	12	15	23
	250	1½	5	-	40	40	-
Brit Gas (*211)	180	33	36	43	½	2½	4½
	200	13	19½	28	2	7	9
	220	2	8	18	11	14	17
Dixons (*106)	100	10	15	20	3	6½	10
	110	4½	10	15	8	12	13
	120	2	6	12	15	19	20
Glaxo (*733)	700	52	82	102	7	17	22
	725	30	64	85	15	27	30
	750	17	49	69	28	37	42
	775	8	35	55	45	50	54
Hawker (*613)	600	45	78	85	17	20	30
	650	15	45	58	45	45	50
	700	2	27	38	85	85	92
Hillsdown (*257)	260	11	24	31	9	13	17
	280	4	14	21	25	26	28
	300	1½	7	15	43	43	45
Lonrho (*286)	240	35	37½	48	2	9	11
	257	20	-	-	6	-	-
	283	7	-	-	18	-	-
Midland (*338)	300	43	53	54	2	8	12
	329	19	-	-	7	-	-
	360	6	16	22	27	39	41
R-Royce (*158)	160	8½	14	17	5	8½	11½
	180	1½	6	8½	22	22	23
	200	1	3	4½	42	42	42
Sears (*105)	100	7	12	14½	2	4½	7
	110	2½	7	9½	7	9	12
	120	1	4	5½	17	17	19
THF (*284)	260	28	40	45	2	6	10
	280	13	26	34	8	13	16
	300	5	17	24	19	23	28
Thorn EMI (*729)	700	40	71	100	11	23	29
	750	12	43	70	37	45	52
	800	3½	22	45	79	82	87
TSB (*118)	100	21	23	27	1	1	2½
	110	11	14	19	2	4	4
	120	3	7½	13	5	7	9
Vaal Reefs (*$108)	90	22	24	27	2	6	8
	100	13	17	21	5	9	12
	110	7	13	16	8	16	17
Wellcome (*719)	650	77	107	132	6	16	26
	700	40	75	100	20	36	42
	750	13	49	74	47	60	65

FT-SE INDEX (*2219)

	2100	2150	2200	2250	2300	2350
Calls						
Nov	119	74	29	7	1½	½
Dec	143	104	65	40	22	13
Jan	175	133	106	75	50	35
Feb	188	160	125	90	70	55
Jun	267	-	202	-	148	-
Puts						
Nov	2½	6	15	45	69	140
Dec	22	34	53	82	118	158
Jan	40	54	74	93	125	160
Feb	52	65	83	108	140	170
Jun	80	-	115	-	160	-

November 24, 1989 Total: 23034 Calls 10739 Puts 12295 FT-SE: Calls 3374 Puts 8815
*Underlying security price.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Air London (75p)	83
Aotos Distinction (20p)	19
Baris Hldgs (142p)	150
Barplats Mines	£155
Bexbuild Dev (50p)	100
Birse Group (120p)	123 +1
Blackland Oil	27½
Brandon Hire (74p)	72 -1
CIA GP (82p)	90
Cambridge Group	66
Cooper Clarke (110p)	96 -2
Drayton Asia Tst (100p)	103
Essex Furniture (50p)	40
Euro Disneyland	885 -5
FBD Hldgs (96p)	93
Hartley Baird	65
Hays New	103
INS Optim Tst	96
Lilly Eli & Co	£42¾
Lon Merch Sec Dif	38
Lynx Hldgs (60p)	90 -3
Millwall Hldgs (20p)	21 -1
Partridge Fine (130p)	119 -1
Pendragon	76 +1
Ramsden (Harry) (100p)	111
Regal Hotels	160
Sempernova (40p)	48
Siam Smllr Comp	£10¾
Vardy (Reg) (90p)	79 -1
Wescol Gp	98

RIGHTS ISSUES

CCS N/P	1¼
Glogau N/P	¼ -¼
Ingham (George) N/P	50
Inoco N/P	2¼
Optim N/P	4½
Psion N/P	22
WB Inds N/P	6 +1

(Issue price in brackets).

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings November 6 **Last Dealings** November 17 **Last Declaration** February 8 **For Settlement** February 19

Call options were taken out on: 24/11/89 Norfolk Capital, Century Oils, Wembley, Geers Gross, Kalt Energy, Aviva Petroleum, British Commonwealth, Oliver Resources, Business Technology, United Scientific.

Puts: Lowndes Queensway.

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Alexanders cuts jobs as market-making closes

By Neil Bennett

Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank is the latest City firm to turn its back on the London share market. It is closing its equity market-making operations, with a loss of up to 20 jobs.

Mr Russel Leiman, the chief executive of the institutional investment division, said the closure was the result of a business review in July. The firm made markets in 600 shares but only 35 were profitable "alpha" graded shares.

"The risk reward profile of trading in so many smaller companies was out of balance," he said. The British market-making side had been making a gross profit since it opened three years ago, but was not covering overheads.

Mr Leiman said the firm would remain an agency broker and European market-maker, and re-employ as many traders as possible in other jobs. He said there was no question of redundancies in other parts of the firm, where it is still employing more staff.

Laing is the 11th market-maker to have closed since the 1987 crash. A few firms, such as Prudential Bache and Strauss Turnbull have opened market-making operations since then, but the overall number has shrunk from 33 to 26. Other firms, including Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, have cut back on their coverage and staff to try to return to profits. Employment in the City's securities industry has fallen by 5,000 from its 1987 peak of 40,000.

Further redundancies seem inevitable, as brokers' commissions are still falling well short of costs of British equity operations, estimated at £1 billion a year. International banks such as Citicorp, however, remain committed to loss-making British equity firms, believing they will be profitable in the long term.

This year though, the threat of redundancy is being felt in wider circles than the City's highly-paid executives. News of up to 5,000 job losses at TSB this week highlights the problems of overmanning and sluggish income growth in the financial services industry. Overall redundancies in banking this year are estimated at more than 10,000.

The banking insurance and finance union (Bifu) says it is receiving so many calls from worried banking employees that it may re-open its jobs helpline. Concerns over job prospects have sent Bifu's membership soaring by more than 4,000 to 170,000.

Water issue will make a splash despite all the political debate

KENNETH FLEET

Whoever said water privatization was "dull" had no understanding of the real world. Water is the only natural monopoly and the Government is about to sell, for a token price, the 10 newly-created public limited water and sewage companies which have the major responsibility for supply and disposal in England and Wales.

Emotions are running high and overwhelmingly against the sale. With the poll tax and reform of the National Health Service, water privatization hangs like a political albatross round Mrs Thatcher's neck. The greatest service the newly-privatized industry can perform in the first two years of its life is to take water out of the arena of electoral debate. It might succeed but it will not be easy.

At a price of 240p a share, and offering an average yield of 8.55 per cent, no one can complain the Government is not giving the investor an extraordinarily good deal. Short of plague, earthquake and war, the immediate risks from taking up water shares have been eliminated. Even the timing of the sale is felicitous. If the economy is storm-bound and the determined bears of equities finally succeed in driving the market into the depths, cast-iron water shares are the best protection on offer in the London market.

Had this week's balance of payments figures not shown the modest improvement they did, the offer price might have been shaded to 235p but that would have come close to a give-away. As it is, the shares ought to go to a handsome premium on the 100p first payment (the "grey" market already operating in advance of official dealings of December 12 is hovering between 22p and 18p).

All this, plus the perks, add up to a popular issue and I will be surprised if some shares earmarked for institutions (55 per cent of 2.18 billion shares offered) and overseas investors (18.5 per cent) are not clawed back to meet demand from the general public, for whom only 23.55 per cent has been provisionally set aside.

The political debate does not, however, end with smiles on the faces of stags nor the City's gratitude for huge sums received for professional advice and in underwriting commissions. It will probably be sharpened by the manifest imbalance in the "deal" the Government and its advisers have worked out between investors on the one hand and taxpayers/consumers on the other. Even as they prepare to buy large quantities of shares some institutions are fretting about the latent threat to their investment — the return of a Labour Government. The Japanese, too, who cannot believe that you can buy shares promising an income of more than 8 per cent (they will receive half the overseas allotment), are a little troubled by the thought that Mrs Thatcher may not be Prime Minister for ever, although that again appears to be her intention.

The Government largely has itself to blame for the political uncertainty surrounding water. From the start in 1985 — when, on the eve of county council elections, it proposed hefty increases in water charges, and Roy Watts, chairman of Thames Water, startled Conservatives with the argument that privatized water companies would give the public a better deal — the Government has been guilty of mismanagement on an appalling scale. It plumped for privatization without giving any serious thought to the industry's backward condition and the genuine misgivings about the concept of free enterprise water.

The priority should have been a new framework of regulation for the industry, bearing in mind its obligations to the public, the years it had been starved by successive governments of capital for new investment, and increasing pressures for higher standards from the European Commission in Brussels. Privatization would then have been delicious icing on the cake, welcome to both consumers and investors alike.

Instead, the regulatory framework has been built *ad hoc* to divert a running stream of criticisms of both the industry and the scheme to privatize it. The craziest feat of all is to have fixed in the public mind the absurd idea that the industry's faults are somehow the faults of privatization. Under the old regime, water may not have been as pure as we thought and beaches not as polluted as we now know they are, but the stuff was free, almost, and the smell was not too bad. Rubbish, of course.

The Labour Party, through the mouth of Dr Cunningham, has said it would renationalize water. Though Bryan Gould has spoken out of turn and muddied the waters of the party's policy toward all privatized utilities, the assumption must be that a Labour government would feel compelled to do something. It could choose one of two routes.

Renationalization is one, but the less likely. The compensation formulae would be horrendously complex. Would Neil Kinnock and John Smith really want to take back £20 billion or more of planned and necessary investment in the water industry into the public spending budget? I imagine Labour would want to spend so much on other projects that it would choose sensibly to leave water to the private sector.

The other route would be to readjust the balance between consumer and shareholder. At the moment, Labour is trying to have it both ways: spokespersons are pointing up the risks that make water company shares a poor investment and arguing that the consumer, too, is getting a bad deal. Some formal restraint on dividends might be the simplest way of redividing the industry's profits.

But even that may not be as easy to do as it sounds. Section 7 of the Water Act is quite specific in requiring the director general of water services — Ian Byatt, watchdog and regulator — to make sure that the companies can properly finance the functions they are licensed to carry out. In practice, it has been agreed that this boils down to ensuring that the companies make an adequate rate of return on their capital. The formulae for setting charges for water and sewage services already agreed with the companies contain assumptions about rates of return.

In two years, that is before the probable date of the next election, the companies will have established some kind of management and performance records which will influence the market prices of their shares. If Labour wishes to tamper with what shareholders believe their shares are worth, it would have to amend the Water Act. The political case for damaging people's wealth would have to be compelling to change the law. And if it were, surely renationalization would be the more honest approach.

Only in one set of circumstances would Labour have powerful public support to act against the industry and its shareholders — the industry's failure to carry out the investment it has promised in order to bring the services it provides up to European Commission standards. If it were seen, by one means or another, to be favouring the bottom line of the profit and loss account and not delivering the improvement expected, the contract would be broken.

Even if I thought Labour were certain to form the next Government, I would not rate the chances of wrecking the water share price as high. And there should be plenty of excitement in the industry before we are all invited to choose a new government. Investors have to decide their preferences among the 10 companies.

Reflecting the preferences, the market will vary the relative market values of the 10 stocks. Because so few City securities firms have not been involved in the privatization issue, and therefore barred from advising prospective applicants, there is a relative dearth of investment advice. The lowest-rated stock according to the initial yield — South West offering 9.68 per cent — may be one to stag. South West has had its problems but it has been putting new, and respected managers into key positions.

All the privatized plcs have a five-year golden share to protect them from unwanted takeovers, but as long as Nicholas Ridley is at the Department of Trade and Industry, how much is a golden share really worth?

The three French companies which have invested heavily in statutory companies are ambitious and aggressive. They will buy heavily — to the limit — in some of the privatized companies and wait their opportunities. In Northumbria, Lyonnaise des Eaux owns two companies providing 40 per cent of the region's water. This may explain the unexpectedly-high yield (8.91 per cent) on Northumbrian plc shares. It was probably important to make sure that these shares were fully subscribed: otherwise they might have gone to a discount in the market, there to be snapped up, embarrassingly, by Lyonnaise.

VSEL shoots up to £12.1m

By Philip Pangalos

VSEL Consortium, the Trident submarine and armament builder, revealed a better-than-expected leap in pre-tax profits to £12.1 million for the six months to end-September, against a strike-depressed £5.58 million last time.

The group has caught up on delays caused by a three-month strike faster than anticipated.

The second Trident submarine, Victorious, has passed the 25 per cent costs stage, and VSEL was able to take into its accounts the first part of profits, which amounts to 6 per cent. The tax charge, of £1.13 million, is also at a lower rate resulting from previous losses at the Cammell Laird shipyard.

The armaments side has seen increased contributions and the SH7 field howitzer is being delivered for an overseas customer.

Earnings per share are more than doubled from 14.7p to 30.8p and the interim dividend is up 50 per cent to 4.5p.

Orders were boosted by a £300 million contract to supply the Army with 179 AS90 mobile howitzers. Group turnover jumped to £245.3 million (£125.2 million).

Lord Chalfont, the chairman, said the strong start should continue. He said the £3 billion order book promises much and gives an excellent base upon which to build the future prosperity of company.

Discussions have taken place with the Ministry of Defence on the contract for the third Trident submarine, and VSEL expects the order to be placed before the end of the current year. The fourth should follow a year later.

The company has also developed prototype ultra-lightweight field howitzer, which at half the weight of the M198 standard US howitzer can be easily airlifted. This could reap strong benefits for the company with the current talk of a reduction in armed forces in Europe.

The first of the Upholder class of diesel-electric submarines went to sea for the first time in May, but the trials, which were running smoothly, had to be aborted because of equipment faults. Upholder will shortly return to sea to complete the trials.

In October, the company submitted a final tender for up to four Type 23 frigates for the Royal Navy. These will be built by Cammell Laird at Birkenhead where they will secure the future of the yard for surface warshipbuilding.

Lord Chalfont said he expects to be able to announce the appointment of a finance director soon.

Mr Pete Deighton, an analyst at County NatWest WoodMac, has upgraded his full-year forecast from £23.1 million to £27.5 million, representing earnings of 70p. The shares rose 27p to 428p.

Shares jump as Monotype backs £32m takeover bid

Prepared to merge: Roger Day, the chairman of Monotype

By Gillian Bowditch

Shares in Monotype Corporation, the loss-making printing group, jumped more than 40 per cent when it said it had recommended a £32 million cash offer from King, Black & Associates, an Amercian group. Monotype's shares rose 45p to 155p on the 150p a share bid.

The offer has been made through Pointplus, a company wholly-owned by investment partnerships managed by KBA. In July, Mr Roger Day, Monotype's chairman, revealing a £1.42 million loss for the 15 months to March, said he would not be averse to a merger with a larger, fast-growing company.

KBA, which has funds of about $100 million (£63.9 million), provides operating expertise, technical support and capital for a variety of companies. The group is backed by a number of Washington State pension funds and the bid will be financed from KBA's internal resources.

KBA approached Monotype several months ago indicating it might be prepared to make a recommended cash offer. Monotype is mainly involved with producing, supplying and servicing laser-based phototypesetting machines. The changes in the industry over the past two years have adversely affected Monotype and a loss is expected in the first half of this year.

KBA intends to keep Monotype as a British company but will strengthen its North American distribution. The Monotype management will stay and rights of employees will be safeguarded.

Moran in £1.18m loss and omits payment

By Our City Staff

Moran Holdings, the property developer and tea planter, incurred a pre-tax loss of £1.18 million for the year to end-June against profits of £352,000, and the second interim payment is axed.

An interim dividend of 1p was paid in July, and although the accompanying statement indicated that a final of 2p was expected, the directors "feel it imprudent to recommend a final payment". Turnover climbed from £25.54 million to £27.65 million. Interest payments rose from £307,000 to £496,000 and there was an extraordinary gain of £92,000. There is a 27.56p loss per share, against 3.62p earnings.

Prospects for the current year are seen asmore encouraging. There are signs of improved margins, particularly in tea, where a substantial gain is foreseen. The effect of high interest rates on mortgages particularly hit residential property in Docklands and South-east London.

Cyclical index falls again

The longer leading index of cyclical indicators of the economy fell again in October by 0.8 per cent to 95.5 reflecting the rise in interest rates and fall in share prices. The index, which has been declining since mid-1987 shows turning points about one year in advance.

The shorter leading index also fell in September to 98.5 and the coincident index fell last month to 97.6. The lagging index was unchanged in September at 102.8.

The Central Statistical Office says that cyclical movements have been smaller since 1981 than in the 1970s.

Keep cutting taxes, says IoD

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Mr John Major, the Chancellor should push ahead with tax cuts in the Budget, the Institute of Directors says.

Mr Peter Morgan, the IoD's director general, said at the Scottish Division's annual convention: "The IoD is concerned that the next Budget may see a standstill in the Government's programme of tax reform through tax reduction." It was nonsense to say that the tax cuts of 1988 and 1989 were the cause of current difficulties.

The spending boom was a matter for monetary rather than fiscal policy. Mr Morgan added: "A tough Budget would do more harm than good.

"Without some fiscal relaxation, the Government could put the economy into a recession entirely of its own making." The IoD's director general said the situation was very different from past downturns in 1974-75 and 1980-81 when the economy contracted sharply.

World trade was expanding, Britain's capacity was up and companies were financially stronger.

It would be a great mistake for industry to act or talk itself into a recession.

Auction house price falls 30% on speculation

Sotheby's shares are hammered

New York — For much of 1989, it seemed as though the only thing rising more rapidly than art prices was the price of auction house shares. But in the past two weeks, a downdraft has hit Sotheby's.

From $33 a share on November 10, just before the round of autumn auctions, Sotheby's shares fell 30 per cent to a low of $23 on Monday, before recovering to $25.875.

The decline is frustrating to Sotheby's management. "Our results are nothing short of outstanding," said Miss Diana Levitt, a vice president.

"What has happened to the stock over the last several days bears no resemblance to the performance of this company, which is extraordinary."

Long-term holders of Sotheby's have no reason to complain. The shares are up 157 per cent this year, even after the latest slip. And Sotheby's still has plenty of friends on Wall Street.

The fall has been punctuated by a report that scandals were about to be disclosed by *Time* magazine, and by speculation about what one big shareholder, Mr Kenneth Heebner, a Boston portfolio manager, has been doing.

Mr Heebner, a vice president of Loomis, Sayles Capital Growth Management, is known for his willingness to place big bets on companies and for a lack of subtlety in his trading.

In April, it was the purchase of 1.7 million shares by funds managed by Mr Heebner that sent Sotheby's shares soaring. Those purchases were at less than $19 a share. (Both the number of shares and the price are adjusted for a subsequent split.)

By late July, Mr Heebner's stake was up to 2.8 million shares, more than 20 per cent of the A shares outstanding.

There is also a class B of supervoting shares, held by Mr Alfred Taubman, Sotheby's chairman, and his associates, which ensures that no unfriendly takeover is possible.

This week, Mr Heebner said the decline in the Sotheby's share price looked to him as if fears of a worldwide recession were growing. He would not say whether he had been selling, but did say that Merrill Lynch had handled several sell orders, and it is well known that he often trades through Merrill.

Wall Street's enthusiasm for Sotheby's has reflected the booming art market and the fact that Sotheby's and its rival, Christies International, whose shares have doubled this year, dominate the market.

Both companies receive a 10 per cent commission from all buyers at their auctions, plus sellers' commissions ranging from zero to 20 per cent.

So far this year, Miss Levitt said, auction revenues at Sotheby's have risen 60 per cent over the comparable 1988 period, with autumn sales up 85 per cent.

"The depth and the breadth of the buying reflect remarkable strength in this market," said Mr Harvey Katz, who follows Sotheby's for Salomon Brothers.

He expects the company to earn $1.80 to $1.85 a share this year, and $2.25 next year, and is recommending the stock.

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Q. Do you believe these could benefit from the right professional advice? Yes/No

Q. Would you be comfortable with a "medium risk" strategy that aimed to deliver above-average returns over the medium term? Yes/No

Q. Would you appreciate regular updates on the progress of your portfolio? Yes/No

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FIMBRA

WORLD MARKETS

NEW YORK

Dow up 13 points on rates cut hope

(Reuter) — The Dow Jones industrial average rose by 13.44 to 2,670.22 in early trading. Shares generally rose on hopes that some big banks will cut their prime rates. When the Federal Reserve pumped fresh reserves into the system on Wednesday, the market took it as a sign that the Fed had eased credit.

Mr Ken Ducey of SG Warburg said: "The Fed funds rate is about 8¾ and the market is hoping that the prime rate will be lowered." Gold shares were higher as the price of the metal rose further.

● **Frankfurt** — The DAX index of 30 leading stocks closed 20.80 points, or 1.4 per cent, higher at 1,555.48. Shares rose by more than 1 per cent, for the second consecutive day, buoyed by a long-awaited recovery in West German bonds.

● **Singapore** — The *Straits Times* industrial index gained 7.22 to 1,385.27. The market continued its upward trend as sustained buying from institutions and speculators lifted prices over a broad front.

TOKYO

Foreign buying helps Nikkei to reach peak

(Reuter) — Shares soared to another record close on scattered buying, helped in late trading by foreign speculators buying shares in the Nikkei index.

Mr Kikuko Okajima, an assistant sales manager at Kokusai Securities, said: "It's a weird, speculative market." The Nikkei index surged by another 197.55 points, or 0.54 per cent to a record 36,484.47. It reached a record close for the third day in a row.

It chalked up a total of 520.73 points in the four-day week — Thursday was a national holiday — after gaining 300.54 in the previous week. But brokers say the pace of the ascent is not fierce enough to force a sudden correction.

Turnover remained unchanged at about 900 million shares. Mr Marshall Auerback, a portfolio manager for GT Management (Japan), said: "It's one of the most boring ascents to records I've seen. It's not accompanied by euphoria." Hints that the US may be easing its credit policy convinced investors that the market's rising trend can be maintained.

HONG KONG

Indexes in cautious rise

(Reuter) — Prices ended firmer after quiet trading. The Hang Seng index gained 7.74 to 2,808.53 and the broader-based Hong Kong index rose 5.26 to 1,849.41. A broker said: "The market was quite happy to drift along on low volumes." Turnover reached HK$861.94 million (£70.57 million) against HK$678.10 million on Thursday.

Brokers said that sentiment was cautious and they forecast little movement in prices next week.

SYDNEY

Rush of late selling

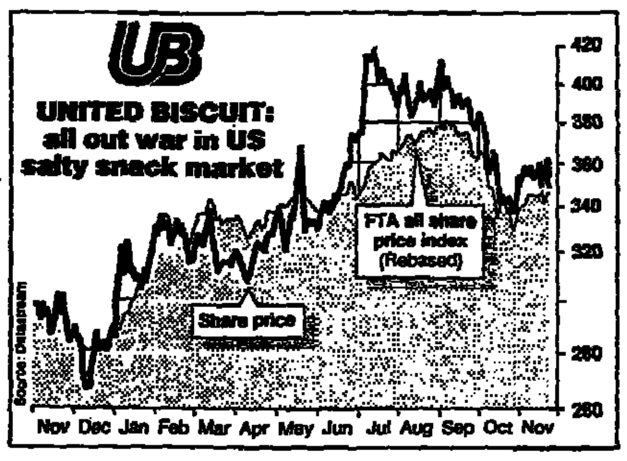
(Reuter) — The market slid to a sharply weaker close after its drift downwards deteriorated into a late selling spree. The All-Ordinaries index finished 16.1 down at 1,615.0. The gold market fell 18.1 to 1,783.2.

The All-Resources shed 9.8 to 908.0 and the All-Industrials 24.2 to 2,546.7.

STOCK MARKET

United Biscuits shares fall over fears of US food war

Shares of **United Biscuits**, the McVitie's, Crawford's and KP Nuts food group, suffered a severe bout of indigestion as the price fell 9p to 352p.



It seems that the group has become embroiled in a war which has broken out between America's big food manufacturers as they try to carve a place for themselves in the $10 billion (£6.4 billion) salty snack market.

Anheuser-Busch, better known in this country for its Budweiser beer, is slugging it out with United Biscuits' US subsidiary, Keebler, while Procter & Gamble is also working hard to beef-up its existing snack market lines.

As a result, Frito-Lay — the market-leader — and its rival, Borden, have embarked on a price-cutting campaign in an attempt to keep their market share.

UB moved into the salty snack market in the early 1980s but it was not until last year, when it launched a new brand of chip potatoes, that it started to make any impact. Analysts say that the group is pinning its hopes on the baking technology it perfected in the cookie sector where it is already established as an important player.

UB spent almost $12 million on advertising during the first half of this year and analysts fear that it could prove to be a costly and uphill struggle for the group.

The rest of the equity market ended the two-week account on a flat note with investors refusing to be coaxed off the sidelines in the wake of Thursday's trade figures for October which were in line with expectations. Without an overnight lead from Wall Street, there was little direction and turnover at 3 pm was just 303.5 million shares.

The FT-SE 100 index lost an early rise to stand 5.5 lower at 2,215.0 — a fall on the account of 1.7 points — despite a firm start to trading in New York. The FT index of top 30 shares also eased 3.8 to 1,750.3.

Government securities sported gains stretching to £½ as the prospect of another rise in interest rates continued to recede.

Among leading equities, **Glaxo** closed at 737p after going ex the one-for-one scrip issue.

In the drinks sector, Grand **Metropolitan** rose 11p to 539p ahead of its full-year figures in a couple of weeks' time with analysts looking for a rise in pre-tax profits from £575 million to £720 million. There is also mounting speculation that Mr Alan Sheppard, the chairman, is considering selling the group's Watney Mann and Truman brewing business as part of the group's recent restructuring which has seen it concentrate more on food and leisure.

Bass, which is reporting full-year figures on Wednesday, rose 10p to 985p. Analysts have pencilled in pre-tax profits of £565 million, against £448.6 million.

Saatchi & Saatchi, one of the world's biggest advertising agencies, remained a nervous market ahead of its figures next month, dipping 8p to 294p. There has been talk that the figures may contain write-offs of up to £50 million.

The banking sector was singled out for attention with sentiment spiced by another spate of takeover talk. **Standard Chartered**, the international group, jumped 15p to 550p on revived talk of a bid. This time the suitor is believed to be **Lloyds Bank**, 1p firmer at 430p. But it was more likely that the rise was attributable to one market-maker attempting to cover a short position in the stock.

Among the merchant banks, **Morgan Grenfell** rose 10p to 470p with the speculators still dreaming of a bid from Deutsche Bank with a near 5 per cent holding. There have been persistent stories that the two are in talks but neither will comment. Recent talks between Morgan Grenfell and BZW, the securities side, of Barclays Bank, broke down.

Harry Ramsden, the fish-and-chip shop, made a confident start to trading on the Third Market after all the razzmatazz which accompanied the flotation. Offered at 100p each, the shares were heavily oversubscribed. The price ended at 109p.

Capital Radio, the independent station operator continued its nosedive with a fall of 73p to 900p. The company reported a bumper set of profits this week but give a warning that advertising revenue had peaked.

Reed International, which on Wednesday bought Martindale-Hubbell, the US publisher, for £195 million, has been meeting Scottish institutions in Edinburgh. Reed has hinted that it intends to follow its US expansion plan with an application for an American Depository Receipts facility for its shares. The price closed 1p firmer at 418p.

Michael Clark

HK halves growth prediction to 3%

From Lulu Yu, Hong Kong

The Hong Kong government has halved its original forecast of economic growth to 3 per cent for the year, raising concern that a recession may be around the corner.

In March, Sir Piers Jacobs, the financial secretary, had predicted a gross domestic product growth rate of 6 per cent, compared with 8 per cent last year and 13.6 per cent in 1987.

He later lowered his forecast to 5 per cent in the wake of China's crackdown on the pro-democracy movement. The government's third-quarter economic report showed the economy had been slowing more rapidly than expected, with sharply-declining exports and a higher-than-forecast rate of inflation.

Domestic exports fell 1 per cent in real terms in the third quarter over the same period in 1988, compared with growth rates of 6 per cent and 2 per cent in the first and second quarters.

Re-exports increased by a modest 17 per cent in the third quarter, compared with 34 per cent and 25 per cent in the first and second quarters, and 46 per cent for the same period last year.

Sir Piers said slackened economic growth had stemmed partly from reduced domestic and international demand, and partly from the effects of China's turmoils.

The forecast growth rate for domestic exports has been lowered to 1.5 per cent from an original 6 per cent for the year, with that for imports reduced to 11 per cent from 12.3 per cent predicted in August. The forecast for re-exports growth, however, was increased to 20 per cent from 18 per cent.

The government's latest figures showed inflation had edged up to 10.4 per cent last month, from 10.1 per cent in September. Sir Piers has revised his forecast of a 9.5 per cent rate of inflation for the year to 10 per cent. The actual rate for 1988 was 7.5 per cent.

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c: Typical	5.00	5.10	4.08	none/none	7 day	—
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	9.00	9.00	7.20	2,500-25,000	1 mth	01-626 1567
"	9.75	9.75	7.80	2,500-25,000	6 mth	01-626 1567
Lloyds	10.63	10.63	8.50	2,500-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	11.00	11.00	8.80	2,500-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	10.56	10.56	8.45	10,000-no max	1 mth	0742 529072
" "	10.42	10.42	8.34	10,000-no max	6 mth	0742 529072
NatWest	10.88	10.88	8.70	10,000-24,000	1 mth	01-726 1000
" "	10.75	10.75	8.60	10,000-24,000	6 mth	01-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	10.64	11.18	8.94	2,500	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	9.50	9.84	7.87	1,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	7.10	7.30	5.84	No min‡	none	01 626 6543
Girobank	9.25	9.25	7.40	1,000‡	none	051 966 2076
Lloyds HICA	7.00	7.20	5.76	500‡	none	01-325 3306
Midland HICA	9.00	9.31	7.45	2,000‡	none	—
NatWest Special Reserve	8.50	8.77	7.02	500‡	none	01-374 3374
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	9.75	10.11	8.09	2,500	none	031-556 8555
TSB England & Wales	9.00	9.00	7.20	2,000	none	01-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	6.15	6.15	4.92	1 min	none	—
Best buy — largest socs:						
North of Engl.	6.90	6.90	5.52	1 min	none	—
Heart of Engl.	9.25	9.25	7.40	250 min	—	—
Holmesdale Benf	10.41	10.41	8.32	500 min	—	—
Chelt & Glouc	10.00	10.00	8.00	10,000 min	—	—
Teachers	11.00	11.00	8.80	20,000 min	—	—
Best buy — all socs:						
Holmesdale Benf	10.41	10.41	8.32	500 min	none	—
Guardian	11.10	11.57	9.25	3,000 min	30 day	—
Holmesdale Benf	11.04	11.04	8.83	500 min	60 day	—
Mornington	11.20	11.20	8.95	1,000 min	90 day	—
Lambeth	10.25	10.51	8.40	250 min	6 mths	—
Cash/Cheque Accounts:						
Halifax Card Cash	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 min		Rates rise
Alliance & Leicester	6.90	6.90	5.52	500 min		with larger
Nationwide Anglia Flex	6.00	6.00	4.80	500 min		balances

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NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c[1]	5.00	3.75	3.00	5-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c[2]	10.75	8.06	6.45	5-100,000	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	11.50	8.63	6.90	2,000-100,000	3 mth	0253 66151
Deposit Bond*□	11.50	8.63	6.90		3 mth	041-649-4555
34th Issue Cert[2]†	7.50	7.50	7.50	25-1,000	8 day	091-3864900
Yearly Plan†	7.50	7.50	7.50	20-200/mth	14 day	091-3864900
General Extension Rate†	5.01	5.01	5.01			
Capital Bond	12.00	9.02	7.23	100-no max	5 yrs	041-649-4555
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
Equity & Life	12.00	12.00	10.20	1,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Regency Life	10.85	10.85	9.23	10,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Consolidated Life	10.50	10.50	8.92	2,000 min	3 yrs	Vere call
Pegasus	10.40	10.40	8.84	1,000 min	4 yrs	01 404 5766
Hill Samuel	10.30	10.30	8.97	5,000 min	5 yrs	for details

		Holiday rates	£ buys
RPI (October 88-89)	+7.3%	Spanish Pesetas:	177.50
Bank Base Rate	15.0%	French Francs:	9.49
Personal Loan	19.7%	Greek Drachma:	258.00
Credit Card	15-26.8%	Italian Lire:	2057.00

[1] 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less [2] Additional holdings up to £10,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates †Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross ‡Higher rates for larger sums □ No longer on sale

CGT ALLOWANCE, October 1989

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in October 1989

RI month	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Jan	—	0.422	0.353	0.288	0.221	0.175	0.137	0.059
Feb	—	0.416	0.347	0.278	0.216	0.170	0.133	0.051
Mar	0.479	0.414	0.343	0.266	0.215	0.168	0.129	0.045
Apr	0.450	0.394	0.326	0.240	0.203	0.154	0.111	0.028
May	0.440	0.388	0.321	0.234	0.201	0.153	0.106	0.022
Jun	0.436	0.385	0.317	0.232	0.201	0.153	0.102	0.018
Jul	0.435	0.378	0.318	0.234	0.205	0.154	0.101	0.017
Aug	0.435	0.371	0.306	0.231	0.201	0.151	0.089	0.015
Sep	0.436	0.365	0.304	0.231	0.195	0.147	0.084	0.008
Oct	0.428	0.361	0.296	0.229	0.193	0.142	0.073	—
Nov	0.421	0.356	0.292	0.225	0.183	0.136	0.068	—
Dec	0.424	0.352	0.293	0.223	0.179	0.137	0.065	—

The RI month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE 401, St John Street, London EC1V 4QE 01-837 6494				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	13.04	13.73	+0.01	
Bear	13.50	14.22	-0.09	
Owl	16.97	17.87	-0.19	
Bull	15.80	16.64	-0.01	
Stag	16.35	17.22	+0.08	
Gilt Edged	12.13		-0.06	
Deposit	11.78		+0.02	
Pensions				
Squirrel	15.67	16.50	+0.03	
Bear	16.54	17.42	-0.13	
Owl	21.90	23.06	-0.20	
Bull	20.13	21.19	-0.03	
Stag	19.74	20.78	+0.08	
Gilt Edged	13.77		-0.06	
Deposit	13.40		+0.02	
Exempt App Mixed	215.0	219.4	-1.86	
ABBEY LIFE 80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fund Inc	301.0	316.9	-4.4	
Do Accum	464.1	488.6	-7.0	
Equity Fund Income	129.3	136.2	+0.3	
Do Accum	150.0	157.9	-1.0	
Selective Fund	343.0	361.1	-2.9	
Money Fund	267.2	281.3	+0.5	
Prop Fd Ser 4	360.8	379.8	-2.9	
Equity Ser 4	152.0	160.1	-0.6	
Man Ser 4	440.3	463.5	+0.1	
Conv Ser 4	238.0	250.6	+0.4	
Money Ser 4	237.8	250.4	+0.4	
Fixed Int Fd Ser 4	218.5	230.1	-1.0	
American Ser 4	337.6	355.4	+5.3	
High Inc Ser 4	438.9	463.1	-1.4	
Indexed Inv Ser 4	141.8	149.0	-1.0	
Japan Ser 4	388.5	409.0	+6.4	
ALBANY LIFE 3, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£10.27	10.81	-0.10	
European Fd Accum	270.1	284.3	+5.7	
Fixed Int Acc	348.1	364.3	-0.5	
Gtd Money Fd Acc	243.3	256.0	+0.4	
Intl Man Fd Acc	428.1	450.6	+3.6	
Int Fxd Int Fd Acc	213.1	224.3	+2.0	
Japan Fund	316.5	333.3	+4.5	
Nth American Fd Acc	216.9	228.3	+4.2	
Prop Fd Acc	352.1	370.6	+0.4	
Multiple Inv Acc	721.3	759.2	-0.9	
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 0793-514514				
Fixed Int Dep Accum	270.2	284.5	+0.4	
Equity Accum	874.8	920.8	+2.1	
Property Accum	519.4	546.8	+6.5	
Far East Accum	224.5	236.4	+2.9	
Managed Capital	380.9	400.4	+0.9	
Do Accum	690.3	726.7	+1.7	
Overseas Accum	581.3	611.9	-7.4	
Gilt Edged Accum	311.0	328.4	-1.3	
Amer Equity Accum	489.1	514.9	+3.1	
Amer Man Accum	225.7	237.6	+1.4	
Amer Prop Accum	151.5	159.5	+0.6	
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace Aberdeen AB9 1QJ Freephone 0800 833 580				
Managed Growth	354.6	373.2	+5.46	
Managed Income	139.5	146.8	-0.31	
International	239.8	252.5	+2.86	
High Income	214.3	225.6	-0.28	
Income & Growth	301.3	317.2	-0.40	
Basic Resource	148.4	156.2	+1.58	
American	206.3	217.2	+3.18	
Japan & General	582.4	613.0	+2.45	
Special Situations	256.4	269.9	+0.85	
BARCLAYS LIFE 252, Romford Rd, London E7 9JB 01-534 5544				
Equity Accum	582.5	613.2	-2.8	
Do Initial	459.3	484.2	-2.1	
Gilt Edged Accum	238.6	251.2	-0.7	
Do Initial	190.1	200.2	-0.6	
International Accum	335.9	353.5	+6.1	
Do Initial	265.7	279.7	+4.1	
Managed Accum	393.5	414.3	+0.7	
Do Initial	311.9	328.4	+0.6	
Money Accum	211.8	223.0	+0.4	
Do Initial	162.6	171.2	+0.2	
Property Accum	331.0	348.5	+0.3	
Do Initial	259.7	273.4		
America Accum	209.4	220.5	+1.0	
Do Initial	168.6	177.5	+0.8	
Australia Accum	190.2	200.2	-0.4	
Do Initial	153.3	161.7	-0.3	
Financial Accum	258.7	272.4	-3.0	
Do Initial	208.0	219.0	-2.3	
500 Accum	311.5	327.9	-1.5	
Do Initial	247.1	260.2	-1.2	
Japan &Gen Acc 2	501.9	528.4	+8.5	
Do Initial 2	395.9	416.8	+7.5	
Income Accum	349.2	368.6	-2.6	
Do Initial	270.1	283.8	-2.1	
Leisure Accum	223.0	234.8	-0.4	
Special Sits Accum	151.0	159.0	-1.7	
Univ Tech Accum	124.0	130.5	+2.5	
Do Initial	102.2	107.6	+2.1	
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House Chatham Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000				
The Managed Fund	528.62		+1.38	
Income Fund	521.5	549.0	-0.08	
Extra Income Fund	460.6	484.8	+1.86	
Worldwide Grwth Fd	389.7	410.2	+2.26	
Balanced Fund	422.4	444.6	-1.26	
Smllr Co's & Rc Fd	518.6	545.9	+1.3	
Int Technology Fd	377.9	397.8	+3.54	
N Amer & Gen Fund	271.4	285.7	+4.18	
Energy Int Fund	144.2	151.8	+2.00	
Pacific Basin Fund	346.8	364.9	-0.19	
German Growth Fd	163.5	171.9	+7.35	
Japan Growth Fd	222.1	233.8	+0.18	
The UK Gth Fd	142.8	150.3	-0.58	
Cont'l Euro Gth	92.82	97.71	+2.34	
Property Fund	307.0	323.2	+0.45	
Fixed Interest Fund	214.8	225.9	-0.34	
Cash Fund	210.2	221.2	+0.39	
Managed Inv Fund	329.2	346.5	+0.84	
Nth Amer Recov	148.4	156.2	+1.41	
CANADA LIFE 2-6, High St, Potters Bar, Herts P Bar 51122				
Equity Growth	198.1			
Managed	229.9	242.1	+0.2	
Property	197.3	207.7	+0.1	
Gilt & Fixed Int	157.1	165.4	-0.4	
Index-Linked	140.1	147.5	-0.5	
Equity	244.2	257.1	-0.6	
Cash	165.2	173.9	+0.1	
Midland Bk UT	248.1	259.1	+4.5	
Midland Bk Int	280.7	295.5	+5.8	

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
CANNON ASSURANCE 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 01-902 8876				
Equity Units	£26.67		-1.11	
Property Units	239.2			
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£45.67	48.05	+0.13	
2nd Equity Accum	428.5	454.5	-5.0	
2nd High Inc/Accum	410.1	434.0	-3.1	
2nd Property Accum	308.0	325.9		
2nd Managed 2 Acc	136.6	144.5	+0.6	
2nd Managed Acc	326.2	345.1	+1.5	
2nd Managed 4 Acc	153.0	161.9	+1.5	
2nd Deposit Accum	210.5	222.8	+0.5	
2nd Gilt Accum	200.0	211.6	-0.4	
2nd Amer Accum	327.5	346.5	+3.0	
2nd Intl Money Ac	197.5	209.0	+2.1	
2nd Index Accum	131.9	139.6	-0.7	
2nd Far East Accum	330.8	350.1	+5.6	
2nd Global Accum	110.0	116.4	+0.1	
2nd Euro Accum	121.4	128.5	+2.8	
2nd Japan Accum	205.3	217.2	+2.5	
2nd Heritage Acc	76.0	80.4		
2nd Intl Curr Bond	101.0	106.9	+1.1	
2nd Strat Opp Acc	101.4	107.3	-1.2	
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500, Avebury Blvd, Cntl Milton Keynes MK9 2LA 0908-606101				
Property Fund	206.4	217.3		
Money Fund	275.5	290.0	+0.3	
Managed Fund	513.2	540.3	+2.4	
Equity Fund	379.1	399.1	-1.9	
Fixed Interest Fund	180.5	190.0	-0.6	
Far East Fund	419.9	442.0	+8.5	
Nth Amer Fund	173.6	182.7	+10.1	
Nat Resources Fund	242.8	255.4	-1.2	
Alexandra Fund	113.2	119.2		
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	194.1	204.4	+0.2	
Ruby	122.1	128.5	+1.3	
Emerald	102.6	107.9		
Equity	209.7	220.8	-2.8	
Property	204.8	215.4	+0.1	
Gilt & Fixed Int	133.2	140.3	-0.2	
Indexed Secs	119.3	125.6	-1.2	
Cash	134.1	141.2	+0.2	
Nth American	143.8	151.5	+3.1	
Far East	241.1	253.8	+5.9	
International	165.1	173.8	+2.9	
Special Sits	225.4	237.3	-0.5	
Intl Income	198.9	209.4	-0.6	
American Inc	137.0	144.3	+1.4	
European	229.3	240.4	+4.2	
Japanese	169.2	178.2	+4.3	
SE Asia	165.5	165.5	+4.0	
Home Inv WP Reg	108.5	114.2	+0.1	
Home Inv WP Spec	108.5	114.2	+0.1	
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	201.8	212.3	+0.4	
Equity	211.5	222.7	-1.9	
Property	184.2	194.1	+0.2	
Gilt & Fixed Int	149.1	157.0	+0.1	
Index Linked	127.3	134.1	-1.3	
Cash	158.4	167.8	+0.3	
Nth American	165.8	174.4	+2.0	
Far East Acc	298.3	314.0	+6.7	
International Acc	195.9	206.3	+3.2	
Special Sits	327.7	345.0	+2.8	
European Flex	294.0	309.5	+6.6	
COLONIAL MUTUAL 24 Ludgate Hill, London EC4P 4BD 01-248 9961				
CML U Ass/Ray	198.78			
CML U Ass/Pen	228.72			
CML U Ass/Cash	151.5	159.5		
CML U Ass/Equity	378.7	398.6		
CML U Ass/FI	221.0	232.6		
CML U Ass/Mngd	283.0	297.9		
CML U Ass/Prop	332.5	350.0		
CML/Pen/Cash Cap	160.1	168.5		
CML/Pen/Cash Inv	196.4	206.7		
CML/Pen/Eqty Cap	£10.42	10.98		
CML/Pen/Eqty Inv	£12.27	12.94		
CML/Pen/Fxd Cap	283.6	298.6		
CML/Pen/Fxd Inv	310.9	327.3		
CML/Pen/Idx Cap	162.6	171.1		
CML/Pen/Idx Inv	198.3	208.8		
CML/Pen/Man Cap	461.7	484.4		
CML/Pen/Man Inv	539.4	567.8		
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 01-283 7500				
Var Ann Accum (6)	492.66			
Var Ann (6)	77.79			
Prime- Managed	294.8	310.4	+0.2	
Prime- UK Equity	350.0	368.5	-2.1	
Prime- Int Equity	243.3	256.2	+3.1	
Prime- Property	214.9	226.3	+0.6	
Prime- Fixed Interest	160.2	168.7		
Prime- Index-Linked	125.2	131.8	-1.4	
Prime- Cash	149.4	157.3	+0.4	
CONFEDERATION LIFE 50 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HE 01-242 0282				
Managed Fund	608.6	651.1		
Equity Fund	£10.76	11.35		
PIP Fund	£20.329			
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 04862 5033				
Life Managed Acc	413.1	434.8	-1.0	
Life Fixed Int Accum	245.5	258.4	-0.8	
Life Equity Accum	533.3	584.0	-3.2	
Life Money Accum	218.2	229.6	+0.4	
Life Inv Trust Accum	531.5	559.4	+0.9	
Life Intl Accum	423.5	445.7	+2.7	
Life High Inc Accum	539.1	593.2	+0.6	
Life Property Accum	243.2	256.0	-2.2	
Crown Brit Inv A	865.4	855.3	-57.6	
Brewin Equity	669.8	705.0	+3.1	
DBS Managed	228.1	239.0	+3.2	
Growth Accum	329.8	346.9	+0.3	
CRUSADER INSURANCE Reigate Surrey RH2 8BL 07372 42424				
Measured perf	110.2	116.6	+0.8	
Performance Plus	106.8	112.9	+1.3	
With Profit Perf	122.6	129.7		
UK Opportunity	133.2	140.6	-1.2	
Euro Opportunity	128.2	135.7	+3.0	
North Amer Opp	106.8	112.8	+0.9	
Far East Opp	131.7	139.4	+2.9	
Gth Prop Series 1	215.4	226.7		
Gth Prop Series 2	167.4	177.1	+0.1	
Fixed Int	112.9	119.5	-0.4	
Cash	115.3	122.0	+0.1	
Managed Pens	402.0	403.6		
Overseas	112.9	119.5	+2.0	

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
EAGLE STAR INSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	127.1	133.8	+0.2	
Blue Chip Fund	163.2	171.8	-3.6	
Adventurous Fund	185.7	195.5	+3.0	
Performance Fund	194.9	205.2	+2.5	
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 1 Threadneedle St, London EC2 01-588 1212				
Eagle/Midland Units	192.2	199.2	-1.0	4.11
EQUITY & LAW Amersham Road, High Wycombe 0494 463463				
Reserve				
Balced (Mxd)	470.8	495.3	+0.4	
Opportunity	126.3	132.9	+1.1	
UK Equities	629.4	636.1	+0.6	
Higher Inc	628.0	661.0	+0.2	
North Amer	278.9	293.5	+2.2	
Far East	447.3	470.8	+6.5	
Europe	301.9	317.7	+2.8	
Intl	391.4	412.0	+4.6	
Property	455.0	478.9	+0.4	
Fixed Int	274.4	288.8	-0.8	
Ind-Lnkd Sec	128.7	135.4	-0.4	
Gtd Deposit	213.5	224.7	+0.5	
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 336242				
Managed (Mixed)	210.4	221.5	-0.1	
UK Equity	255.2	268.7	-2.3	
Stewardship	239.4	252.0	-2.0	
Overseas Equity	222.2	233.9	+3.1	
North American	115.1	121.2	+1.5	
Pacific Basin	125.5	132.2	+2.3	
European	143.5	151.1	+4.0	
Property	201.5	212.2	+0.1	
Fixed Interest	146.8	154.4	-0.5	
Index Linked	120.0	126.4	-0.7	
Cash	142.8	150.4	+0.1	
GT MANAGEMENT 8th Floor 8 Devonshire Square London EC2M 4YJ 01-283 2575				
GT Plan Bond Fund	207.2	218.2	+2.7	
GT Plan High Yield	268.6	282.8	+1.0	
GT Plan Far East	338.2	355.9	+6.7	
GT Plan North Amer	160.5	169.0	+2.4	
GT Plan UK & Gl	365.5	377.4	-0.7	
GT Plan Worldwide	319.0	335.8	+7.8	
GENERAL ACCIDENT LINKED LIFE 2, Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR 0904 628982				
Managed	149.3	156.9	-1.1	
UK Equity	191.8	201.8	-0.8	
Fixed Int	127.9	134.4	-0.3	
Index-Linked	119.1	125.2	-0.9	
Cash Deposit	128.0	134.6	+0.2	
Property	164.4	173.1	-0.1	
International	128.9	135.7	+1.0	
American	104.8	110.2	+0.7	
Japan	197.7	208.0	+2.5	
Japan Smllr Co's	200.8	211.3	+2.1	
European	129.9	136.7	+3.0	
Pacific Fund	141.9	149.2	+2.9	
Conv Life	101.9	107.2	-1.2	
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Crossbrook St, Cheshunt Herts 0992 31971				
Portfolio Fd Acc	524.0		-2.0	
Do Init	338.6		-1.6	
Do Inv a	523.8	551.6	-2.1	
UK Equity	278.4	293.1	-2.0	
Overs Equity	195.0	205.4	+0.4	
Smaller Cos	174.7	184.0	-0.2	
Gilt Plus	139.2	146.6	-0.7	
Do Bll	142.7	150.3		
Fixed Int Dep	134.8	142.1	+0.1	
Managed	220.8	232.7	-0.8	
Inter Man	194.7	205.0	-0.3	
GRESHAM UNIT 2-8, Prince of Wales Road, Bournemouth 0202 752000				
Managed Bond	547.5	576.7	+0.7	
Money Fund	230.3	242.5	+0.1	
Equity Fund	463.8	491.2	-7.7	
Fixed Interest Fund	178.7	188.2	+0.3	
Property Fund	329.7	346.4		
Gresham Framlington				
American & General	282.5	298.3	+2.1	
Income	468.2	516.5	-8.5	
International Grwth	337.8	355.6	+6.2	
Capital Fund	441.6	465.3	-1.0	
Recovery Fund	357.6	377.1	+2.6	
Japan & General	290.2	305.8	+3.3	
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3 01-283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	734.4	754.5		
Managed Initial	391.6	412.1	-2.1	
Do Accum	498.6	524.8	-2.5	
Equity Initial	583.3	614.0	-4.8	
Do Accum	742.7	781.8	-6.1	
Fixed Int Initial	272.3	286.6	+1.0	
Do Accum	346.7	364.9	+1.3	
Intl Initial	383.8	404.0	+1.2	
Do Accum	488.7	514.4	+1.6	
NB Amer Initial	127.5	134.3	-0.7	
Do Accum	147.8	155.6	-0.8	
Pacific Initial	239.7	252.4	+6.7	
Do Accum	273.2	287.7	+8.6	
Property Initial	214.7	226.0		
Do Accum	273.0	287.4		
Index-Linked Initial	121.4	127.8	-1.2	
Do Accum	140.7	148.1	-1.4	
Deposit Initial	157.5	165.9	+0.2	
Do Accum	200.8	211.2	+0.4	
Euro Initial	86.0	90.5	+1.9	
Do Accum	92.1	96.9	+2.0	
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE 41 Tower Hill London EC3N 4HA 01-702 9961				
Managed	113.6	119.5		
Do Pens	120.6	126.9	+0.1	
UK Equity	104.4	109.9	-0.3	
Do Pens	106.2	111.7	-0.8	
International	114.0	119.9	+0.9	
Do Pens	121.5	127.8	+1.3	
Deposit	103.6	109.0	+0.2	
Do Pens	108.9	114.6	+0.2	
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 26, Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1DA 01-638 5757				
High Income Fund	310.8	326.1	-1.5	
Gilt Edged Fund	80.1	84.6	+0.2	
Capital Growth Inc	286.6	302.5	-1.2	
Technology Fund	148.1	156.4		

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Natural Resources	114.4	120.6		
Special Situations	322.0	338.9	+2.0	
North America Fund	282.7	298.8	-0.1	
Far East Fund	428.9	450.6	+6.9	
Managed Fund	339.9	357.6	+0.2	
Deposit Fund	164.6	173.3	+0.3	
Prime Residential	180.5	189.0	-1.0	
Property Fund	204.7	215.5	+1.0	
Managed Currency	121.6	128.4		
Global Health Care	149.6	157.2		
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 01-686 4355				
Security Fund	335.0	352.7	-2.5	
British Fund	332.5	350.0	+0.7	
International Fund	365.6	384.8	+3.9	
Dollar Fund	257.1	270.7	+1.6	
Capital Fund	314.0	331.4	-0.6	
Income Fund	463.8	488.2	-6.1	
Property Series 'A'	411.3	433.0		
Property Units	706.6	744.1		
Financial Fund	320.2	337.1	+1.4	
Managed Series 'A'	278.2	293.0	-0.9	
Do 'C'	244.8	257.5	-0.5	
Managed Units	862.8	907.5	-1.5	
High Yield Fund	403.1	428.5	-0.6	
Money Series 'A'	206.7	217.6	+0.3	
Money Units	268.4	282.6	+0.4	
Equity Fund	412.9	434.7	-1.2	
Fixed Interest Fund	234.7	247.1	-0.4	
Indexed Secs Fund	130.4	137.3	-1.0	
European Fund	515.3	542.5	+12.0	
Natural Res Fund	243.4	256.3	+3.8	
Far East Fund	507.8	534.6	+14.8	
Smaller Co's Fund	382.9	403.0	-0.5	
Special Sits Fund	351.3	369.8	-0.8	
Man Currency Fund	206.9	217.8	+2.0	
Japanese Tech	259.7	273.4	+8.7	
US Smaller Co's	117.2	123.4	+3.2	
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Longbow House, 20, Chiswell St, London EC1 4TY 01-638 1731				
Global Managed 3	389.4	398.6	-1.9	
Global Property 3	222.4	234.1		
Global Fixed Int 3	324.0	341.0	-1.6	
Global Equity 3	420.3	442.4	-2.0	
Global Cash 3	153.1	162.2	+0.7	
LAS GROUP 10, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2YH 031-225 5494				
Managed Fund	245.5	258.4	-0.6	
UK Equity	367.7	387.4	-2.4	
Property	279.6	294.7	-5.9	
Money Market	182.9	192.6	+0.3	
Fixed Interest	213.8	225.2	-1.1	
Japan	388.2	408.6	+4.1	
North America	123.4	129.9	-1.2	
International	189.2	199.4		
European	172.7	182.2	+2.8	
Far East	129.7	137.1	+1.5	
Special Sits	95.4	100.5	-0.7	
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Growth Fund	334.2	363.3	-1.5	
Managed Fd	288.5	303.7	-13.4	
Fixed Int Fd	261.2	274.9	-0.4	
Secure Cap Fd	209.5	220.5	+0.3	
Equity Fd	922.0	955.3	-8.5	
Property Fd	259.2	272.8	+0.2	
Managed	367.6	387.2	+0.1	
Gtd Mgd	350.0	368.4	-0.4	
Property	485.5	489.8	+0.4	
American	304.3	320.3	+4.8	
UK Equity Fd	470.2	494.9	-2.2	
High Yield	544.9	573.6	-3.3	
Gilt Edged	289.5	304.7	-0.5	
Money	290.5	305.6	+0.4	
International	324.5	341.6	+6.9	
Henderson Active	169.0	178.6	+0.5	
Perpetual Active	191.5	201.6	+0.7	
Growth Cap	328.1	343.3	+1.0	
Do Accum	447.0	470.5	+1.4	
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2, Montefiore Rd, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 724204				
Bldg Soc Lnkd Init	115.6	121.6	+0.1	
Do Accum	135.5	142.7	+0.2	
Brit Opps Int	105.2	110.8	-0.7	
Do Accum	112.0	117.9	-0.6	
Cash Initial	141.4	148.8	+0.1	
Do Accum	207.7	218.7	+0.4	
Equity Initial	466.8	491.3	-1.5	
Do Accum	689.2	725.5	-1.7	
Fixed Initial	269.1	283.3	-0.3	
Do Accum	376.8	396.4	-0.5	
Index-Linked Gilt	108.4	114.2	-0.8	
Do Accum	138.8	145.8	-1.0	
Intl Initial	301.5	317.4	+4.3	
Do Accum	439.1	462.2	+6.3	
Managed Initial	357.8	376.6	+0.7	
Do Accum	527.8	555.6	+0.8	
Property Initial	229.8	242.1	+2.9	
Do Accum	330.4	367.3	+4.2	
LEGAL & GENERAL PROPERTY 11, Queen Vic St London EC4N 4TP 01-248 9678				
L & G (29)	264.9	287.0		
LONDON LIFE 100, Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	584.1		+3.9	
Fixed Interest	253.1		-2.7	
Property	347.1			
Deposit	208.4		+0.4	
Mixed	402.9		-2.7	
Indexed Stock	149.1		-1.1	
International	212.8		+3.0	
Equity A	141.3		-2.0	
Fixed Int A	139.2		-1.2	
Property A	183.6			
Deposit A	123.5		+0.3	
Mixed A	135.6		-0.6	
Index Stock A	117.7		-0.8	
International A	133.5		+1.9	
Equity P	469.9		-10.5	
Fixed Int P	310.2		-3.0	
Property P	280.1		+0.4	
Deposit P	221.4		+0.6	
Mixed P	363.2		-3.7	
Index Stock P	168.4		-1.1	
International P	283.1		+3.9	
LON & MANCHESTER GROUP Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 52155				
Inv Trust Cap	478.8		-2.0	
Do Accum	643.5		-2.3	
Property Cap	166.9		-0.1	
Do Accum	248.3			
Fixed Interest Cap	160.4		-1.0	
Do Accum	209.8		-1.2	

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Equity Cap	242.1		-3.0	
Do Accum	319.3		-3.9	
International Cap	209.3		+1.3	
Do Accum	274.4		+2.9	
Gtd Deposit Cap	155.2			
Do Accum	202.1		+0.2	
Flexible Cap	283.9		-2.2	
Do Accum	374.1		-2.8	
Moneymaster Fund	305.5		-2.8	
Capital Growth Fund	994.3		-19.2	
M & G Three Quays, Tower Hill EC3R 6BQ 01-626-4588				
Amer Bond Acc	279.2	293.3	+3.8	
Amer Rec Bond	328.3	345.8	+8.2	
Amer Smlr Co Bond	132.5	139.2	+2.0	
Australasia Bond	172.6	181.3	+1.8	
Commodity Bond	233.8	245.6	+2.9	
Deposit Bond Acc	261.1	274.3	+0.5	
Equity Bond Accum	897.8	942.5	-3.6	
European Bond Acc	247.4	259.9	+4.9	
Extra Yld Bd Accum	470.1	493.7	-2.3	
Far East Bd Accum	189.8	199.9	+4.3	
Gilt Bond Accum	274.6	288.5	-1.8	
Gold Bond Accum	130.0	136.6	+5.5	
High Yield Bond	292.3	307.1c	-1.5	7.16
Index-Linked Gt Bd	149.6	157.2	-1.0	
International Bond	534.2	561.1	+9.0	
Japan Bond Acc	329.2	344.7	+10.5	
Japan Smlr Co Acc	255.6	268.5	+8.9	
Managed Bonds	578.5	607.5	+1.8	
Prop Bond Accum	379.0	399.0	+0.2	
Rec Bond Accum	481.6	506.1	-2.6	
MGM ASSURANCE MGM Hse Heene Rd, Worthing BN11 2DY 0903 204631				
UK Equity Fund	197.7	208.2	-2.5	
Do Accum	238.9	251.5	-3.0	
Special Sits Fund	179.7	189.2	-2.7	
Do Accum	217.3	228.8	-3.2	
North American Fd	185.5	193.7	+1.5	
Do Accum	187.9	197.5	+2.0	
Pacific Basin Fund	342.5	360.6	+4.4	
Do Accum	413.9	435.7	+5.5	
Fixed Interest Fund	216.4	228.8	-0.2	
Do Accum	260.4	274.2	-0.3	
Property Fund	181.0	190.6	+0.5	
Do Accum	218.7	230.3	+0.7	
Deposit Fund	132.1	138.6	+0.2	
Do Accum	147.9	155.7	+0.3	
Managed Fund	213.5	224.8	-0.3	
Do Accum	253.8	267.2	-0.3	
MANUFACTURERS LIFE St George's Way, Stevenage 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	529.6	551.2		
Property Fund	514.7	541.8		
Equity Fund	610.9	643.1		
Gilt Edged Fund	392.4	413.0		
Deposit Fund	238.2	250.7		
Investment Fund	258.6	272.7		
International Fund	472.3	497.4		
MERCHANT INVESTORS Leon House, 233 High St Croydon 01-686 9171				
Property	506.1		+0.3	
Equity Bond	205.1		-1.0	
Money Market Bond	324.0		+0.2	
Deposit Fund	273.1		+0.1	
Managed Fund	307.9		-1.3	
Intl Equity	389.6		+2.8	
Intl Managed	382.6		+1.6	
North American	142.4		+1.0	
Far East	338.5		+4.8	
Intl Currency	183.9		+1.2	
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Enterprise Hse, Portsmouth 0705 827733				
Equity	97.7	102.8	-0.4	
Fixed Interest	349.0	368.3	-1.4	
Managed	486.1	511.8	-1.1	
Deposit	247.8	260.2	+0.5	
Overseas	293.1	308.5	+2.2	
Property	406.4	428.8	+0.1	
American	289.5	304.7	+8.4	
Australian	319.2	336.0	+1.2	
European	368.7	388.0	+8.4	
Gilt & Fixed Int	185.1	194.8	-0.6	
Global Managed	109.7	115.4		
Income Accum	498.8	525.0	-3.9	
Do Dist	401.8	422.9	-2.5	
International	309.8	322.9	+2.2	
Japan Smaller	437.9	460.9	+8.9	
Singapore & Mal	206.9	217.7	+8.9	
Smaller Companies	382.6	402.7	-3.7	
Tokyo Fund	630.2	663.3	+7.1	
UK Equity	423.3	445.5	-4.1	
CCM Vang'd Mgd	469.4	494.1	-0.7	
Equity Pension Cap	714.8	752.4	-2.1	
Overseas Pension	344.2	362.3	+5.2	
NATIONAL PROVIDENT 48, Gracechurch St, EC3P 3HH 01-623 4200				
Managed	342.9	361.0	+0.4	
UK Equity	429.2	450.8	-2.1	
Overseas Equity	358.8	377.7	+5.6	
American	233.1	246.0	+4.4	
Far East	424.4	446.7	+7.1	
Property	219.0	228.5	-0.2	
Fixed Interest	223.2	235.0	-0.5	
Indexed Gilt	139.7	145.1	-1.1	
Deposit	155.8	164.1	+0.2	
NORWICH UNION PO Box 4, Norwich NR1 3NG 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	912.7	960.8	+1.1	
Equity Fund	£18.03	18.98	-0.10	
Property Fund (3)	537.0	550.0	+0.3	
Fixed Int Fund (3)	396.3	417.2	-0.8	
Deposit Fund (3)	244.0	256.9	+0.4	
Intl Fund (30)	166.2	175.0	+2.6	
Unit-Linked Plus	948.0A			
PEARL ASSURANCE 252 High Holborn, WC1V 7EB 01 831-1657				
Inv Prop Dist	181.5	190.9	-0.7	
Do Accum	310.2	326.6	-1.2	
Inv Equity	730.3	769.8	-5.0	
Inv Managed	540.4	574.2	-2.4	
Flat Managed	539.9	562.5	-3.4	
PHOENIX ASSURANCE 4-5, King William St, EC4N 7ER 01-626 9876				
Wealth Assured	446.8	472.6	+0.2	
Ebor Phoenix Equity	378.0	401.1	+1.2	
PROLIFIC LIFE & PENSIONS Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4BE 0539 33733				
Managed Fund	580.7	633.6	+1.9	

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng.	Yld
Cash Fund	241.6	254.6		
Property Fund	298.3	315.4		
Equity Fund	679.2	714.7	+3.2	
Fxd Interest Fund	291.4	307.1	-1.7	
International	359.8	380.9	+8.9	
High Income	434.5	462.2	-0.6	
Far East	457.2	489.4	+5.4	
North American	298.2	317.3	+3.9	
Special Sits	358.6	377.9	-2.9	
Technology	264.2	281.1	+3.0	
Extra Income Fund	258.3	274.9	-8.2	
Gilt Fund 20	300.7	318.9	-1.6	
PROPERTY GROWTH Leon House, Croydon CR9 1LU 01-680 0606				
Property Fund	494.8		+1.8	
Property Fund (A)	470.5		+1.5	
Agricultural Fund	578.6		+0.2	
Agric Fund (A)	558.0		+0.2	
Abbey Nat Fund	346.5		+0.7	
Abbey Nat Fund (A)	374.1		+0.8	
Investment Fund	243.6		+0.3	
Investment Fund (A)	226.7		+0.5	
Equity Fund	678.6		-3.1	
Equity (A)	650.6		-2.9	
Money Fund	332.3		+0.4	
Money Fund (A)	321.1		+0.5	
Actuarial Fund	408.4		+0.3	
Gilt-Edged Fund	259.6		-1.2	
Gilt-Edged Fund (A)	258.6		-1.2	
Retire Annuity	984.2			
Immed Annuity	344.5			
International Fund	493.9		+8.8	
Bldg Soc Life Fund	164.4		+0.1	
PROVIDENCE CAPITAL 30, Uxbridge Rd, W12 8PG 01-749 9111				
Equity Fund Accum	187.3	208.2	-2.0	
Fixed Interest Acc	145.7	153.7	-0.5	
International Accum	181.5	191.5	+2.0	
Managed Accum	163.6	172.6	-0.4	
Property Accum	241.0	254.3	-0.4	
Money Accum	110.7	116.6	+0.1	
Special Mkt Accum	169.3	178.6	+1.9	
Japan Growth Acc	157.4	166.1	+1.6	
N Amer Accum	112.0	118.2	+0.1	
Pacific Accum	105.7	111.5	+1.3	
Technology Accum	132.7	140.0	-0.7	
Natural Res Accum	70.2	74.1	+1.4	
European Accum	105.8	111.7	+1.8	
PROVIDENT MUTUAL 25/31, Moorgate London EC2R 6BA 01-628 3232				
Managed Ord	331.3	348.7	-0.4	
Managed Initial	262.7	276.5	-0.1	
Equity Ord	451.7	475.5	-2.2	
Equity Init	358.2	377.1	-1.8	
Index-Lnkd Gilt Ord	143.2	150.7	-1.4	
Index Linked Gilt Init	118.6	124.8	-1.2	
Overs Equity Ord	316.8	333.5	+3.7	
Overs Equity Initial	251.2	264.4	+2.8	
Property Ord	215.6	226.9	+0.1	
Property Initial	171.0	180.0		
Fixed Int Ord	179.2	188.6	-0.5	
Fixed Int Initial	142.1	149.6	-0.4	
Deposit Ord	149.1	156.9	+0.2	
Deposit Initial	118.2	124.4	+0.1	
REGENCY LIFE ASS CO 65-67 High Holborn London WC1V 6DU 01-831 7481				
Series 2 Man Fund	308.6	326.1	-0.6	
Series 2 Equity Fund	368.8	382.9	-1.4	
Series 2 Prop Fund	392.2	412.8	+2.0	
Series 2 Fix Int Fund	249.3	262.2	+3.6	
Series 2 Money Fd	182.5	192.1	+0.3	
Series 2 Overs Fd	284.3	299.2	+3.4	
Tulip Invest Fund	347.4	365.7	+2.5	
Tulip Managd Fund	389.8	410.3	-0.6	
Mngd Inv Fd Int	267.8	281.5	-0.6	
Do Accum	317.7	334.4	-0.6	
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH 01-405 9222				
Managed	245.3	258.6		
PRUDENTIAL HOLBORN LIFE LTD 30 Old Burlington Street London W1X 1LB 01-439 3134				
Managed Fund	531.7	559.7	-4.6	
Equity Fund	£10.44	10.99	-0.23	
Intl Fund	402.1	423.3	+7.0	
Fixed Interest Fund	373.3	393.0	-1.4	
Property Fund	401.6	422.8	+1.2	
Cash Fund	264.4	278.4	+0.5	
Pacific Basin Fd	228.3	240.4	+6.5	
N American Fd	166.5	175.3	+0.6	
Euro Fund	178.5	187.9	+5.0	
Balanced Fund	112.1	118.1	-0.4	
Strategic Fund	114.5	120.6	+0.5	
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE LTD 20, Clifton Street, London EC2A 4HX 01-920 0202 0733 262524				
Multi Growth (45)	807.21			
Multi Growth 'A' (45)	507.3	534.0		
Op 5 Prop	434.6	457.5	-18.6	
Op 5 Equity	719.9	757.8		
Op 5 High Yield	355.1	373.8	-1.0	
Op 5 Managed	582.8	613.5	-0.4	
Op 5 Deposit	284.7	299.7	+0.4	14.75
Op 5 US Dollar	81.8	86.9		8.73
Amer Smaller	130.4	137.3	+1.7	
Commodity	87.2	91.8	+0.5	
Extra Inc	145.0	152.7	-1.2	
Far East	272.2	286.4	+2.8	
Fixd Secs	169.8	178.8		
Gold Gen	47.2	49.7	+1.4	
Inc Gth	246.7	259.7	-2.8	
Intl Fund	166.1	174.9	+0.9	
Japan Perf	328.6	345.8	+5.1	
Japan Smlr	252.2	265.8	+3.3	
Natl High	223.2	235.0	-3.5	
Prop Shs	174.2	183.4	-0.7	
Intl Recovery	241.1	253.8	+1.3	
Smaller Cos	220.0	231.6	-2.7	
Univ Energy	72.5	76.4		
World Tech	133.1	140.5	+2.1	
Managed Gth	205.9	216.8	+0.6	
Gilt	76.1	80.2	-1.7	
Hong Kong	93.3	98.3	+0.6	
Aust. Gth	63.5	66.7		
Amer (35,34)	165.0	173.7	+0.5	
Australian	72.7	76.6		
British	219.3	230.9	+1.5	
Commodity	151.1	164.4	+1.9	
Extra Inc	190.5	200.1	+3.1	
Far Eastern	265.5	280.5	+5.1	
Intl Fixed Int	90.3	95.1	+0.6	
Global (35,34)	321.1	338.1	+3.1	
Gold Share	72.7	76.6	+3.0	
High Income	240.4	253.8	-0.7	
Income	327.0	344.3	-3.7	
Japan	389.4	391.5	+4.9	

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Special Sits	214.4	225.7	-2.5	
UK Smlr Co's	285.3	300.4	-2.8	
Man Growth	343.9	362.1	+4.3	
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051-227 4422				
Royal Shield Fund	634.5	671.4	-2.8	
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	261.1	274.8	-1.1	
Equity Fund	329.7	347.0	-12.9	
Property Fund	218.0	230.4		
International Fund	358.4	364.1	+2.1	
Pacific Basin Fund	243.7	256.4	+12.5	
United States Fund	143.3	151.1	-0.5	
Gilt Fund	214.8	226.8	-1.1	
SAVE & PROSPER 1, Finsbury Ave London, EC2M 2QY 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	555.6	587.9	+2.8	
Deposit Fund (2)	260.2	264.9	+0.5	
Gilt Fund	322.6	341.8	-1.2	
Global Equity Fund	166.5	175.2	+0.9	
Property Fund (48)	93.3	98.8e	+0.8	
AG Bond Fund	113.8	119.8	+0.4	
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-248 2323				
Equity	423.7	446.1	-4.8	
Fixed Interest	223.3	235.1	-0.2	
International	309.6	325.9	+2.3	
Property	243.8	256.7	+0.3	
Cash	166.5	175.3	+0.2	
Managed	332.5	350.0	-1.9	
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28, St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101				
Cash	128.7	135.4	+0.13	
Index-Linked	111.1	117.0	-0.5	
Fixed Interest	119.0	125.3	+0.3	
Mixed	177.9	187.3	+0.7	
UK Equity	156.0	164.3	-0.3	
International	202.3	213.0	+3.5	
American	148.7	156.6	-0.4	
Japan	264.4	289.9	+2.5	
European	198.7	209.2	+2.3	
Pacific	249.6	262.7	+3.4	
Technology	182.6	192.5	+1.9	
Foreign Bd/Currency	153.3	161.4	+0.3	
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031-225 2211				
Property	187.3	197.2	+0.1	
UK Equity	232.0	244.3e	-0.3	
American	177.4	186.9e	+0.1	
Pacific	258.1	271.8e	+2.3	
European	288.8	304.1	+4.1	
International	212.6	223.9	+1.7	
Fixed Interest	142.4	150.0	+0.3	
Index Linked	143.6	151.2	-1.4	
Deposit	137.5	144.8	+0.2	
Managed	195.2	205.6	+0.5	
Worldwide	102.6	108.3	+1.3	
Pen Worldwide	105.1	110.6	+1.8	
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN 041-248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£11.65	12.21	+0.15	
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENTS 109, St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-248 6321				
Safety Fund	154.2	162.5	+0.4	
Growth Fund	169.0	177.9	+0.7	
Opportunity Fund	171.4	180.5	+1.4	
Cash Fund	123.7	132.4	+0.2	
European Fund	247.5	260.7	+5.9	
Gilts & Fxd Int Fund	125.6	132.5	+0.7	
Index-Linked Fund	128.3	135.0	-1.0	
International Fund	212.3	223.5	+3.7	
North American Fd	160.6	169.1	+1.7	
Property Fund	135.1	142.3	-0.1	
UK Equity	178.7	188.0	-0.9	
UK Smaller	199.7	210.5		
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031-556 9181				
Mixed	190.4	200.5	+0.1	
Equity	185.7	195.5	-1.8	
International	225.3	237.2	+3.9	
Property	239.2	251.8	-0.1	
Fixed Interest	142.5	150.1	-0.5	
Index Linked	127.1	133.8	-0.6	
Cash	137.8	145.1	+0.2	
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031-655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	663.3			
Inv Pol 2	600.0	631.6		
Inv Pol 3	579.8	610.4		
Inv Cash	220.6	232.3		
Mixed Fund	335.4	353.1	+1.7	
Equity Fund	389.7	410.4	-2.0	
Property Fund	233.2	245.4	+0.2	
International Fund	347.7	366.1	+6.0	
Fixed Interest Fund	220.7	232.3	-1.1	
Indexed Stock Fund	140.6	148.1	-1.1	
Cash Fund	161.3	169.9	+0.2	
SKANDIA LIFE Frobisher Hse, Nelsons Gate, Southampton SO2 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Accum	272.1	286.4	+0.8	
Equity Accum	312.2	328.6	-1.0	
International Accum	277.8	292.2	+4.5	
Property	213.0	224.2	+0.4	
Royal Trust Mngd	182.5	192.2	+1.8	
Britannia Mngd	149.0	156.7	+1.6	
Framlington Mngd	171.4	180.4	+1.5	
Gartmore Mngd	188.5	198.5	+2.7	
Henderson Mngd	182.4	191.9	+1.1	
TSB Managed	183.9	191.9	+0.3	
North European	254.4	267.7	+6.7	
Pacific	219.2	230.7	+2.7	
Intl Recovery	189.7	199.6	+2.0	
Gilt Plus Accum	204.9	215.8	-1.4	
North American	141.0	148.4	+3.6	
Deposit	192.1	202.2	+0.3	
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031-225-2552				
Cash	193.8	204.2	+0.3	
Equity	658.2	692.7	+0.9	
European	117.8	124.1	+3.2	
Far East	151.0	159.0	+1.5	
Fixed Interest	248.0	261.1	-0.6	
Index Linked	145.8	153.5	-1.7	

Fund	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
International	474.4	499.4	+6.8	
Managed	470.3	495.1	+1.7	
Nth American	102.5	107.9	+0.9	
Property	313.2	329.7	+0.3	
Pension Funds				
Cash	273.4	287.8	+0.5	
Equity	853.1	898.1	-1.8	
European	117.8	124.1	+2.2	
Far East	151.0	159.0	+1.5	
Fixed Interest	309.0	325.3	+0.6	
Index Linked	192.6	203.0	-1.9	
International	640.4	674.2	+7.2	
Managed	616.0	651.8	+1.2	
Nth American	102.5	107.9	+0.9	
Property	400.9	422.1	+2.4	
Stock Exchange	137.2	144.5	+0.3	
SUN ALLIANCE Sun Alliance Hse, Horsham, Sussex 0403 64141				
Managed Fund	463.0	487.4	+0.6	
Equity Fund	611.5	644.0	-2.1	
Fixed Interest Fund	280.9	295.7	-1.5	
Index Linked Fund	218.2	230.8	-2.2	
Property Fund	443.1	466.5	+1.5	
International Fund	462.4	479.3	+6.4	
N American Fund	144.6	152.3	+1.5	
Far East Fund	215.8	227.2	+2.5	
Deposit Fund	213.2	224.5	+0.3	
International Bond	233.94		+0.90	
Worldwide Bond				
Worldwide Find	98.1	103.3	+0.4	
Worldwide Tech	103.2	108.7	+0.8	
European	113.1	119.1	+2.1	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing 0256-841414				
Growth Account	£10.131		+0.07	
Managed Account	667.8		+0.6	
Equity Account	779.7		+0.3	
Mngd Fund Accum	267.5	281.6	+0.3	
Equity Fund Accum	349.2	368.5	+0.1	
Prop Fund Accum	248.2	261.2	+0.2	
Fixed Int Fd Acc	169.8	180.8	-0.7	
Intl Fund Accum	347.4	365.7	+2.5	
Money Fund Accum	158.7	167.0	+0.3	
Index-Lnkd Sec Acc	151.3	159.6	+0.2	
Pers Pens Account	271.5		-0.1	
Pens Mngd Account	536.1	563.8	-4.5	
Pens Guarantee	154.4	161.5	+0.3	
Pens Equity	200.2	210.8	-3.7	
Pens Property	215.9	227.3	+0.3	
Pens Fixed Int	153.8	161.1	-1.2	
Pens Intl	165.7	174.5	+2.4	
Pens Money	162.8	180.8	+0.6	
Pens Index-Lnkd	136.8	143.8	-1.1	
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Accum	571.9	602.1	+8.0	
Property Accum	354.4	373.1		
Equity Accum	829.1	850.2	+3.3	
Fixed Int Accum	340.8	358.2	-1.0	
Index-Linked Accum	137.5	144.8	-0.3	
Cash Accum	222.6	234.4	+0.4	
Amer Equity Accum	238.8	251.3	+1.7	
US Bonds Accum	146.5	155.5	+1.4	
Japan Accum	343.2	361.3	+6.9	
Pacific Accum	181.5	191.1	+3.1	
Far Eastern Accum	542.9	571.5	-2.1	
International Accum	375.8	395.4	-1.5	
US Dollar Accum	96.5	101.6	+0.6	
Yen Accum	128.4	135.2	+0.9	
Euro Cur Accum	129.4	136.3	+2.2	
Distribution Fund	224.1	236.0	+1.2	7.79
European	128.5	135.5	+3.6	
TARGET LIFE Target House, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury Bucks Aylesbury (0296) 394000				
American Eagle	125.5	132.2	+0.7	
Australian	30.8	32.5		
Commodity	121.7	128.2		
Deposit	185.7	195.5		
Residential Prop	91.2	96.0		
Financial	206.6	217.5	-0.8	
Fixed Interest	227.6	239.6	+0.3	
Gold	58.6	62.2	+2.4	
Income	258.5	271.8	-1.4	
International Equity	313.3	329.5	+0.7	
Japan	455.6	480.7	+8.0	
Convertible	160.6	169.3	-1.8	
Managed	460.0	485.2	-3.8	
International Bond	88.4	93.1e	+0.0	
Managed Prop	140.6	148.5		
Pacific	200.0	220.6		
Preference	193.9	204.2	-3.6	
Property	348.6	358.6	+0.1	
Sterling	8.0			
UK Cap	171.4	180.5	-2.9	
UK Cap Pen				
World Income	195.8	206.0	+0.7	
Euro Situations	192.5	202.5	+3.1	
TSB LIFE LTD Keens House, Andover, Hants, SP10 1PG 0264 56789				
Managed Fund	196.4	206.9	+0.5	
Property Fund	171.5	180.6	+2.3	
Fixed Interest Fund	146.1	153.9	-0.8	
Money Fund	144.1	151.8	+0.2	
Equity Fund	259.6	273.4	+0.7	
TYNDALL ASSURANCE 401, St John Street, London EC1V 4QE 01-837 6494				
3-Way Fund	434.72		-1.09	
UK Equity	260.2	283.4	-3.11	
N American Equity	204.4	215.1	+1.45	
Far East Equity	376.6	396.6	+4.03	
Bond	185.5	195.5	-0.76	
Cash Deposit	147.6	155.6	+0.09	
Property	122.6	129.3	-0.34	
Special Opp	298.5	315.0	-5.49	
Managed	240.0	258.6	-0.21	
Index-Linked Fd	141.1	148.5	-1.09	
Star Mngd 2	278.2	292.9	+2.49	
Star Mngd 3	289.0	292.1	+3.38	
Star Mngd 4	240.3	253.0	+0.58	
Star Mngd 5	287.9	291.7	+3.85	

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Dull end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 13. Dealings ended yesterday. §Contango day November 27. Settlement day December 4. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at 4 pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Travis Perkins	Building,Roads	
2	Alexandra W'wear	Industrials A-D	
3	Coalt	Industrials A-D	
4	Amstrad (aa)	Electricals	
5	MB Group (aa)	Industrials L-R	
6	Bank of Ireland	Banks,Discount	
7	Ashley Group	Foods	
8	SA Breweries	Breweries	
9	Deutsche Bank	Banks,Discount	
10	P-E International	Electricals	
11	AAH	Industrials A-D	
12	Spring Ram	Industrials S-Z	
13	AAF Inv	Industrials A-D	
14	Friendly Hotels	Hotels,Caterers	
15	Parkfield	Industrials L-R	
16	Borland	Electricals	
17	Triefus	Industrials S-Z	
18	Vaux Group	Breweries	
19	Wardle Storeys Plc	Chemicals,Plas	
20	Clyde Pet	Oil,Gas	
21	Allied Irish	Banks,Discount	
22	AB Elect	Electricals	
23	BTP	Chemicals,Plas	
24	McKechnie	Industrials L-R	
25	Bridport-Gundry	Industrials A-D	
26	Kingfisher (aa)	Drapery,Stores	
27	Farnell Elect	Electricals	
28	Glaxo (aa)	Industrials E-K	
29	Bowater	Industrials A-D	
30	ASW	Industrials A-D	
31	Fine Art Dev	Drapery,Stores	
32	Sunciffe Speakman	Chemicals,Plas	
33	BOC (aa)	Industrials A-D	
34	Wolstenholme Rink	Chemicals,Plas	
35	Hardys & Hansons	Breweries	
36	Quotient	Electricals	
37	Helical Bar	Property	
38	BBA	Industrials A-D	
39	LASMO (aa)	Oils,Gas	
40	Diploma	Industrials A-D	
41	De La Rue	Industrials A-D	
42	Brown (N)	Drapery,Stores	
43	Desoutter	Industrials A-D	
44	Dixons Grp (aa)	Drapery,Stores	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Portfolio

PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND

£4,000

Claims required for +208 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

1989 High Low Stock | Price | Chge | Int yld % | Red yld %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

1989 High Low Company | Price Bid Offer | Chge | Gross div p | Yld % | P/E

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E-K

L-R

S-Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 22

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend c Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

UNLISTED SECURITIES

[illegible]

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

THIRD MARKET

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 86.7 (day's range 86.6-86.8).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for November 24

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.5615-1.5675	1.5615-1.5625	0.85-0.83pr	2.52-2.50pr
Montrl	1.8215-1.8308	1.8215-1.8250	0.45-0.39pr	0.87-0.81pr
Amstrdm	3.1761-3.1918	3.1792-3.1828	1⅜-1⅝pr	5⅜-4⅞pr
Brussels	59.07-59.38	59.07-59.27	27-22pr	77-70pr
Copnhgn	10.9305-10.9707	10.9305-10.9531	2⅜-2⅛pr	8⅛-7⅝pr
Dublin	1.0690-1.0742	1.0712-1.0722	40-31pr	90-69pr
Frankft	2.8154-2.8251	2.8154-2.8188	1⅜-1⅝pr	4⅞-4½pr
Lisbon	243.59-245.55	243.59-244.53	15pr-32ds	82-193ds
Madrid	180.31-181.23	180.35-181.09	7pr-1ds	9pr-4ds
Milan	2075.78-2088.80	2076.01-2078.91	4-3pr	12-10pr
Oslo	10.6938-10.7374	10.6963-10.7188	2⅜-2⅝pr	7⅜-6⅞pr
Paris	9.6032-9.6326	9.6032-9.6172	3⅜-3⅝pr	7⅜-7⅛pr
Stckhlm	9.9953-10.0367	9.9967-10.0125	2⅜-2⅛pr	7⅜-7⅛pr
Tokyo	224.00-224.86	224.00-224.38	1⅜-1⅛pr	4⅜-4⅛pr
Vienna	19.82-19.90	19.84-19.86	10⅜-10pr	31⅜-28⅛pr
Zurich	2.5156-2.5259	2.5187-2.5219	1⅜-1⅛pr	4½-4⅜pr

Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	1016.92-1025.41
Australia dollar	1.9942-1.9981
Bahrain dinar	0.5850-0.5930
Brazil cruzado *	10.4211-10.4811
Cyprus pound	0.7630-0.7730
Finland marka	6.5740-6.6410
Greece drachma	254.90-258.10
Hong Kong dollar	12.2120-12.2122
India rupee	26.30-26.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4625-0.4665
Malaysia ringgit	4.2245-4.2289
Mexico peso	4090-4190
New Zealand dollar	2.6544-2.6630
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8165-5.8985
Singapore dollar	3.0519-3.0555
S Africa rand (fin)	6.1215-6.2480
S Africa rand (com)	4.0807-4.0881
U A E dirham	5.6975-5.7775

*Lloyds Bank. Rates supplied by Extel and Barclays Bank GTS

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.4580-1.4585	Denmark	7.0050-7.0125	Italy	1331.0-1332.0
Singapore	1.9520-1.9530	W Germany	1.8025-1.8035	Belgium (Com)	37.88-37.98
Malaysia	2.7020-2.7030	Switzerland	1.6140-1.6150	Hong Kong	7.8107-7.8117
Australia	1.2755-1.2771	Netherlands	2.0370-2.0385	Portugal	156.55-156.75
Canada	1.1650-1.1670	France	6.1575-6.1625	Spain	115.70-115.80
Sweden	6.4150-6.4225	Japan	143.52-143.62	Austria	12.71-12.72
Norway	6.8550-6.8625				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank GTS and Extel.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %: Clearing Banks 15 Finance Hse 15
Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 14⅞ Low 13 Week fixed: 14⅞
Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 mth – 14¹¹⁄₁₆ 3 mth – 14½
Selling: 2 mth – 14¹⁹⁄₃₂ 3 mth – 14¹³⁄₃₂
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %): 1 mth: 14²⁵⁄₃₂-²³⁄₃₂ 2 mth: 14²³⁄₃₂-14⅝ 3 mth: 14¹⁷⁄₃₂-⁷⁄₁₆ 6 mth 13¹⁵⁄₁₆-13⅞
Trade Bills (Discount %): 1 mth: 15¼⁄₃₂ 2 mth: 15¹¹⁄₃₂ 3 mth: 15⁵⁄₃₂ 6 mth 14⁹⁄₁₆
Interbank (%). Overnight: open 14% close 10
1 week: 14⅜-¹⁷⁄₁₆ 1 mth: 15¹⁄₃₂-15 3 mth: 15¹⁄₃₂-15
6 mth: 14⅞-¹³⁄₁₆ 9 mth: 14⅞-14⅝ 12 mth: 14⁹⁄₁₆-⁷⁄₁₆
Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 day: 14¹³⁄₁₆ 7 day: 14¹³⁄₁₆ 1 mth: 15
3 mth: 15 6 mth: 14¹⁵⁄₁₆ 12 mth: 14⁷⁄₁₆
Sterling CDs (%): 1 mth: 15-14¹⁵⁄₁₆
3 mth: 15¹⁄₁₆-15 6 mth: 14¹³⁄₁₆-¾ 12 mth 14⅜-14¼
Dollar CDs (%): 1 mth: 8.30-8.25
3 mth: 8.27-8.22 6 mth: 8.10-8.05 12 mth 8.00-7.95
Building Society CDs (%)
1 mth: 15-14¹⁵⁄₁₆ 2 mth: 15¹⁄₃₂-15 3 mth: 15¹⁄₃₂-15
6 mth: 14⅞-14⅝ 9 mth: 14⅝-14½ 12 mth: 14½-14⅜

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
Dollar:	8¼-8	8¼-8⅛	8⁹⁄₃₂-8⁹⁄₃₂	8³⁄₃₂-7³¹⁄₃₂
Call: 8⅜-7⅞				
Deutschemark:	7⅝-7½	7⅞-7⅝	8⅛-8	8⁵⁄₁₆-8³⁄₁₆
Call: 7½-6½				
French Franc:	10⁵⁄₁₆-³⁄₁₆	10⁵⁄₁₆-³⁄₁₆	10⁹⁄₁₆-⁷⁄₁₆	10½-10⅜
Call: 10-9				
Swiss Franc:	7-6⅝	7⅛-7⅞	7	

GOLD

BULLION: Per ounce
Open: $413.50-414.00 Close: $416.00-416.50
High: $417.25-418.00 Low: $413.50-414.00

COINS: Per coin (Ex VAT)
Britannia: $425.00-430.00 (£272.00-275.00)
Krugerrand: $415.00-418.00 (£265 50-267.50)
Mapleleaf (1oz): $425.00-430.00 (£272.00-275.00)
American Eagles: $425.00-430.00 (£272.00-275.00)
New Sovereigns: $97.00-99.00 (£62.00-63.00)
Old Sovereigns: $97.00-99.00 (£62.00-63.00)
Platinum: $536.50 (£343.05)
Palladium: $141.50 (£90.45)
Silver: $5 85-5.87 (£3.745-3.760)

TREASURY BILLS

Applcts: £1,173m allotted: £300m
Bids: £96.395% received: 31%
Last week: £96.4% received: 69%
Avge rate: £14.4453% last wk £14.4267%
Next week: £300m replace £n/a

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
FT-SE 100			Previous open interest 34724		
Dec 89	2225.0	2226.0	2209.0	2217.0	4197
Mar 90	2257.0	2260.0	2255.0	2260.0	1280
Three Month Sterling			Previous open interest 135909		
Dec 89	85.00	85.02	84.98	85.01	5663
Mar 90	85.86	85.86	85.79	85.84	14678
Three Month Eurodollar			Previous open interest 44243		
Dec 89	91.75	91.80	91.75	91.79	1191
Mar 90	92.34	92.37	92.32	92.35	2243
Three Month Euro DM			Previous open interest 29816		
Dec 89	91.73	91.76	91.70	91.74	3414
Mar 90	91.86	91.86	91.81	91.83	3044
Three month ECU			Previous open interest 1021		
Dec 89	89.32	89.32	89.26	89.28	126
Mar 90	89.69	89.65	89.61	89.63	281
US Treasury Bond			Previous open interest 8223		
Dec 89	99-26	99-26	99-20	99-26	1307
Long Gilt			Previous open interest 35601		
Dec 89	91-11	91-22	91-09	91-21	10164
Japanese Govt Bond			Previous open interest 1108		
Dec 89	103.94	104.34	103.94	104.24	230
German Govt Bond			Previous open interest 41919		
Dec 89	91.28	91.40	91.09	91.24	33298
Mar 90	91.53	91.58	91.25	91.39	4093

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FAMILY MONEY

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

Vivien Goldsmith looks at the latest privatization's options

Gather in those water shares while you may

Those who take a strictly financial view of water privatization agree that the flotation has plenty to offer the private investor.

People who have decided to apply for the shares now have the even more difficult decision to make – which water company to choose.

For customers who registered for the extra incentives with their local water company and plan to hold on to their shares, the decision seems quite clear cut – buy shares in the local company.

The difference between the most highly rated company – Thames which has a yield of 8.1 per cent, and South West at the bottom of the league with a yield of 9.68 per cent – is just 1.58 per cent a year. This differential is easily put in the shade by the special incentives.

The more than four million customers who have registered have the choice of two forms of incentives. They can opt for a larger benefit sooner, or a smaller one which entails a longer wait.

The discount scheme offers 10p off both the second and final installment payments with a maximum discount of £300. The final payment is due in 20 months' time. The bonus shares option which gives one share for every 10 – or one in five for customers – held until the end of 1992 and a maximum benefit of around £720, means waiting three years.

Stock market analysts differ over which incentive investors should choose. At stockbrokers Greig Middleton, water analyst Ms Anthea Gaukroger said anyone applying for up to 1,500 shares should opt for the discount as the benefits come through sooner than the bonus shares.

On the other hand stockbroker Henderson Crosthwaite said that on the assumption that the value of the shares will rise, investors should opt for the bonus shares rather than the discount.

Investors are free to apply once in each of the 10 water companies. People who want to apply for more than one water company's shares and people who are not customers of any company, have to survey the whole field. Anyone with staging in mind also has all 10 companies to choose from as the incentives take time to flow through.

The City analysts who have been studying the companies have come to widely varying conclusions.

Mr Kevin Lapwood of Charterhouse Tilney believes that all the 10 water companies will open at a premium with South Western and North West the laggards. He thinks that customers of South Western might be better advised to shun their home company and look to another water company in which to invest.

For people who want to hold shares in the long term he recommends Thames, Welsh and Anglian. These companies should also perform well in the short term along with Nortumbrian and Southern. He is not so keen on Wessex and believes Severn & Trent and Yorkshire are not ones to hold on to.

Ms Anthea Gaukroger of Greig Middleton picks Wessex, Yorkshire and Northumbrian as possible bid targets, but believes Thames will go to the biggest premium, while Anglia is likely to benefit from more households being set up in its area.

BZW picks Northumbrian and Wessex for solid long-term investments; Welsh Water, which involves a slightly greater risk; and Anglian and North West for its recovery potential because its problems have been overplayed.

BZW counsels caution over Thames and Severn Trent which may have been given too high a rating because of their high profiles, and Southern as a high risk investment. Yorkshire may have some pollution problems and South Western, although it has plenty of scope for improvement, may face management problems.

Henderson Crosthwaite selects Anglian, Northumbrian, Thames and Southern whose shares could benefit from interest displayed by French companies which are strongly represented in Southern's area.

Mr Matthew Orr of Chelsea stockbrokers Killik & Co said the yields are as good an indicator of the water companies relative merits as anything: "So the companies with the lowest yields have the best growth prospects." With this in mind he naturally picks Thames as the company to invest in.

Killick is allowing clients to put water shares into a personal equity plan free of charge. Clients pay just £7.50 for each dividendreclaimed ie £15 a year.

Timetable for water privatization

Personalized application forms go out:	Wednesday November 29
Deadline for applications:	10am Wednesday December 6
Basis of allocations announced:	5pm Monday December 11
Dealing starts:	9am Tuesday December 12
Interim certificates sent out:	Wednesday December 20
Payment of 2nd installment:	3pm Tuesday July 31, 1990
Payment of final installment:	3pm Tuesday July 30, 1991

Bets taken on falling prices

Prices on the "grey market" for water shares quoted by IG Index, the betting organization, predict an average premium of 19p on the £1 partly paid price on the first day of water share trading.

IG prices range from £1.23 for Thames to £1.14 for South Western. The second ranking companies, Severn Trent, Southern, Wessex and Yorkshire are at £1.21. Then Anglia, Northumbria and Yorkshire are put at £1.20. Welsh at £1.19, and North Western at £1.17.

The average return on the fully paid up price is a healthy 9 per cent.

IG Index works by taking bets on the share price falling outside a six-point spread. For instance if Thames is quoted at 120p-126p, punters can choose to bet that the price will climb above 126p or fall below 120p.

If they are right, they are paid their stake - say £100 a penny point - for every point above or below the margin.

But if they are wrong and the price moves in the other direction, they have to pay a multiple of their stake. All winnings are tax-free. So, as an IG Index spokesman said: "The more right you are the more you win, and the more wrong you are, the more you lose."

A spokesman for IG Index, Caroline Wagstaff said betting had been concentrated on Thames, Severn & Trent, Welsh, Yorkshire and Wessex.

Most bets had been down bets. "It is impossible to say whether feel prices are going to fall or they want to lock in gains in the market."

V.G.

Escaping commission

Anyone who wants to sell water shares without paying stockbrokers' commission should put £2,000 into a gold account with Leeds Permanent Building Society. Customers with smaller sums get dealing for £10 plus VAT.

Investment must be in either an instant access Liquid Gold account which pays 9.25 per cent on £2,000 to £5,000 or a Solid Gold three-month notice account which pays 10 per cent net. The money from the sale of the water shares will go straight into the account.

There is also commission-free selling on offer with Debenham Investment Services. The dealing charge at Debenhams is 1.65 per cent with a minimum of £22.

Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, is offering a "cheque-back" service to share applicants. This means that when a C & G cheque is returned because a water share application has been unsuccessful, the money will be treated as if it had never left the account, so applicants will lose no interest.

V.G.

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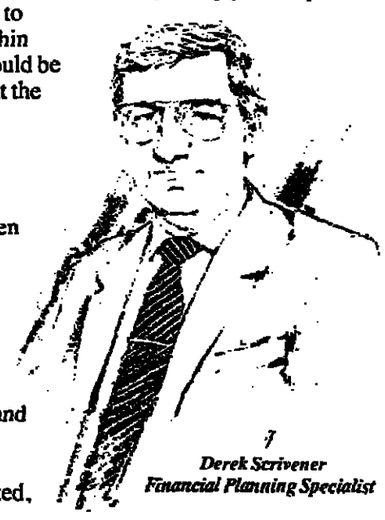

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FAMILY MONEY

Equitable Life cuts unit trust charges

Rising unit trust charges have been a feature of 1989. While 5 per cent up front and 1 per cent a year were the norm 12 months ago, standard charges are now levelling out at 6 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively.

Equitable Life has decided to buck this unwelcome trend by cutting the front-end charges on its nine unit trusts from 6 per cent to 5 per cent. Annual management charges remain at a competitive 0.5 per cent per annum.

"The intention is to give all investors with Equitable Life a fair deal," said Mr Mark Daniel, technical manager.

Critically, Equitable has also decided to keep the bid/offer spreads on its funds to 5 per cent. While front-end charges are invariably quoted by unit trust groups as representing the cost of making an investment in a unit trust, this is not the case. The true cost is the difference between the selling price (bid price) and the buying price (offer price), usually referred to as the bid/offer spread.

A review of unit trust price statistics shows that the spreads many unit trust groups are currently employing are far in excess of their stated front-end charges.

CCL Unit Trusts, for example, has a stated front-end charge on its Recovery fund of 5.5 per cent. The difference between the bid and offer prices for this fund on Thursday was a startling 10.2 per cent. This means that an investor placing his money in CCL Recovery on that date would have to see the fund increase by 11.3 per cent.

The decision by Equitable, therefore, to keep its bid offer spreads to 5 per cent is a welcome one. One of the main reasons why it is able to carry out such a competitive pricing structure is because unlike most other unit trust groups, Equitable does not pay commission to advisers.

Jeff Prestridge

Conal Gregory reports from this year's Hospices de Beaune sale

White Burgundy prices increase almost two-fold

Wine prices soared at last Sunday's sale of Hospices de Beaune wines — the largest and most significant influence on prices for the current harvest — with white Burgundy nearly doubling in value.

Investors in classic Burgundy have followed the prices at this auction since 1859. Except for truly exceptional vintages, a select number of casks are auctioned every November to aid local charity. It is the first serious assessment by both trade and public of the new vintage, even though many of the wines have not completed their full fermentation.

This year's average increase for red Burgundy from the Côte de Beaune was 13.5% per cent, while white Burgundies rose by over 96.7 per cent, reflecting their outstanding quality. Altogether 659 *pièces* or casks were sold.

Early bud burst of the vine — both Pinot Noir for the red and Chardonnay for the white — saw the grapes a month ahead in their development by the end of August. Although the region, like Britain, suffered from a dearth of rain, the result has been good wines.

Clearly investors will view the sale last weekend in two respects. First, many will consider the historic cost of their Burgundies from earlier vintages as relatively inexpensive and buy additional stocks. Those awaiting the auction should not delay as merchants will increase prices in advance of paying the much higher levels for replacement wines.

The least expensive way to acquire this new vintage, which is likely to be shipped in two to two and a half years' time is by forward buying.

The buyers last Sunday were truly international coming from Mexico and Switzerland well as Japan and the United States.

From the UK, Eldridge Pope of Dorchester purchased Beaune, Guigone de Salins; European Cellars secured Beaune, Brunet; and Bablake Wines of Coventry bought Pommard, Billarde. James McCabe of Belfast secured Corton, Charlotte-Dumay whilst J W Lees of Manchester took Pommard, Billarde.

British buyers of white Burgundies were Averys of Bristol with Meursault, Genevrières and Robert Klapp with Corton-Charlemagne, Francois de Salins.

For buyers increasing wine portfolios with Burgundy of slightly older vintages, good selections will come under the UK hammer at Christie's in London on December 7 and Sotheby's in Sussex the following day. Both auctions are holding pre-sale tastings.

Hospices de Beaune: The medieval Hotel Dieu is still used as the kitchen of a new hospital

Private banking challenges high street

A new private banking operation which aims to challenge banks, building societies and investment advisers is arising out of of Kleinwort Benson Investment Management.

KBIM has already been granted a banking licence by the Bank of England that is distinct from what is held by the merchant banking division. It became effective at the begining of this month.

Its next move is likely to involve offering attractive rates to savers and developing a more coherent pattern of banking services.

It already has 10,000 clients paying fees for fund management and some 5,500 clients with KB mortgages. There is also a unit trust business, tax advice, pensions, insurance and financial planning advice.

This is all being pulled together to form a comprehensive private banking package aimed at two sorts of clients — passive and active. The passive are characterized as those with money who are interested in investing and conserving it. The active are more thrusting and adventurous in their financial planning and are more likely to borrow money for investment schemes, mortgages or school fees.

In a similar mood, Midland Bank is expanding its existing personal financial service. While the typical Kleinwort Benson client might have £250,000 to invest, Midland is happy to take on those with £100,000.

It will appoint a personal investment manager to construct and manage the portfolio. The service costs 1 per cent a year and is aimed at the over-55-year-olds.

Portfolios will normally be managed on a discretionary basis, but the emphasis will be on service and individual attention. Most investment will be directed into shares. The service does not offer independent advice on other financial ranges. Investors wanting a life policy will be directed into a Midland Life product and the unit trusts on offer will come from the Midland stable.

Vivien Goldsmith

BRIEFINGS

■ The cost of insuring your car may remain the same next year or even fall, according a report by Smith New Court, the brokers. Motoring insurance rose an average 6 per cent in 1988, but growing competition between insurers may see rates staying at 1989levels. Premiums for careful drivers may even decrease.

■ Up to four million National Westminster Bank customers are being asked what they think of the bank's service this month. A questionnaire will be sent out with account statements and the results passed to branch managers.

■ Sending money abroad should take minutes not days, according to American Express. To prove the point, it has launched Moneygram, a worldwide money transfer service. The service is open to anyone, not just cardholders, but it can be expensive. Fees start at US$35 for amounts between $100 and $500. Tel 01-930 4411.

■ Banks and local authorities should take some lessons in English, says the Plain English Campaign. Barclays Bank and the Halifax Building Society were presented with Golden Bull awards at a ceremony in London yesterday. The Inland Revenue was commended for its guide, *Careers in Taxation*.

■ Some life assurance companies take up to 64 working days to process clients' papers, and little is being done to speed things up. A review by Burns Anderson, the intermediary network group, found that none of the 45 biggest life companies had set down basic standards of service for their customers.

■ BMI Kidsons, the accountants, have followed Binder Hamlyn in offering tax advice to married couples in the run-up to separate taxation. A personal report on financial planning opportunities costs £250, but Kidsons will refund the money if £250 cannot be saved in tax. Binder Hamlyn charges £175 but returns the fee and offers no advice if £250 of savings cannot be made. Tel Kidsons 01-436 6636; Binder Hamlyn 01-353 3020.

■ Investors are three times more likely to seek independent financial advice from the Press than from independent advisers. A survey of visitors to the International Money Show and conducted by Eagle Star, found the Press was the most popular choice. Taxation was the most confusing area of financial planning.

■ The Royal Society for Nature Conservation has put its name to a credit card from the Bank of Credit and Commerce International. For each card the RSNC will receive a £5 donation and 0.25 per cent from each expenditure. Tel 0522 752326.

■ A new leaflet giving guidance on avoiding tax traps when setting up disaster funds, can be obtained from the Inland Revenue or from Customs & Excise. The leaflet suggests that an appeal which uses two trusts, one charitable, the other non-charitable, can combine the tax advantages of the first with the flexibility of the second.

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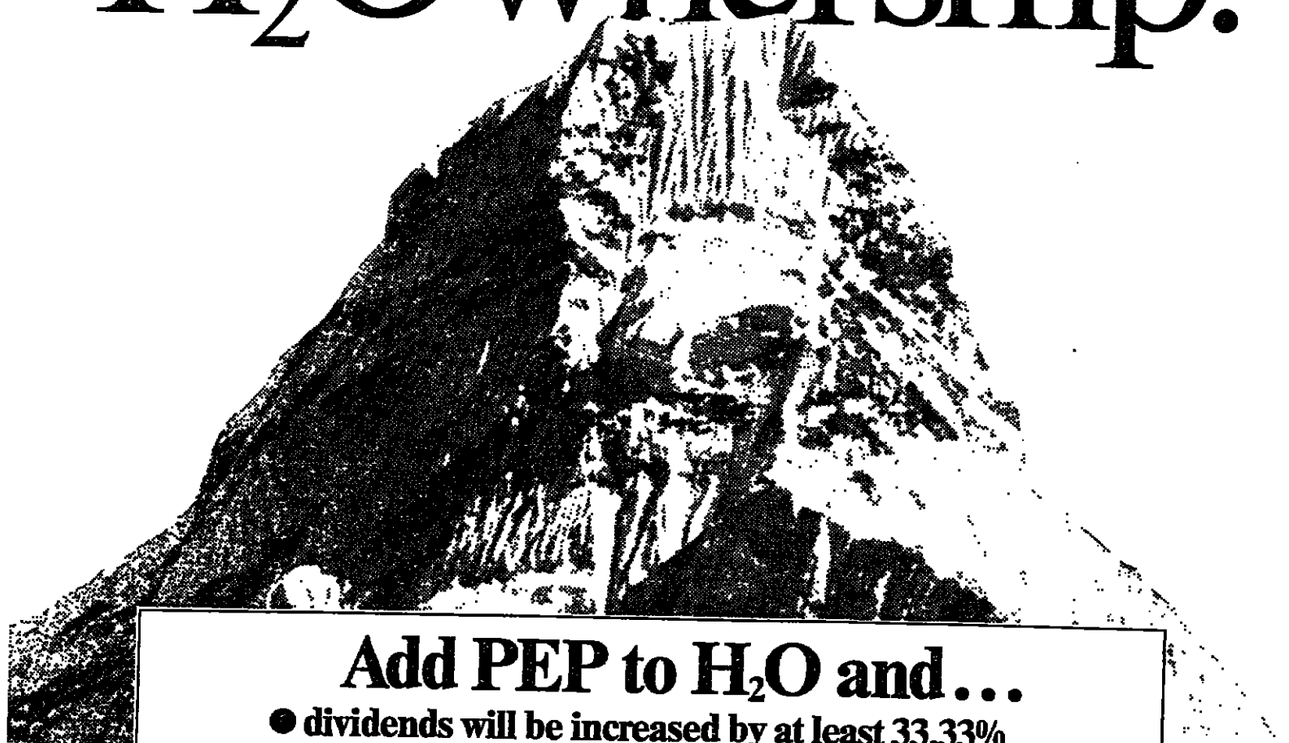

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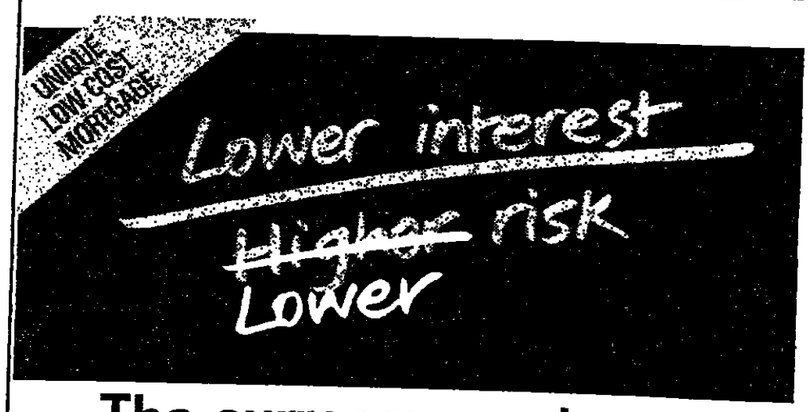

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FAMILY MONEY

Japanese fuel the first gold prices surge in two years

Jon Ashworth reports on the volatile metal

The threat of a devastating earthquake in Japan is one of the more colourful reasons behind the sudden surge in the price of gold, if certain City analysts are to be believed.

Gold reached $417 yesterday, an 11-month high but even though a two-year decline in demand for the precious metal appears to have been broken, investors may find they are better off sticking to less volatile investments.

In the last three weeks, gold has gained more than $50 an ounce, breaking through the $400 barrier for the first time in several months. But 10 years ago, it was nearly double its present price.

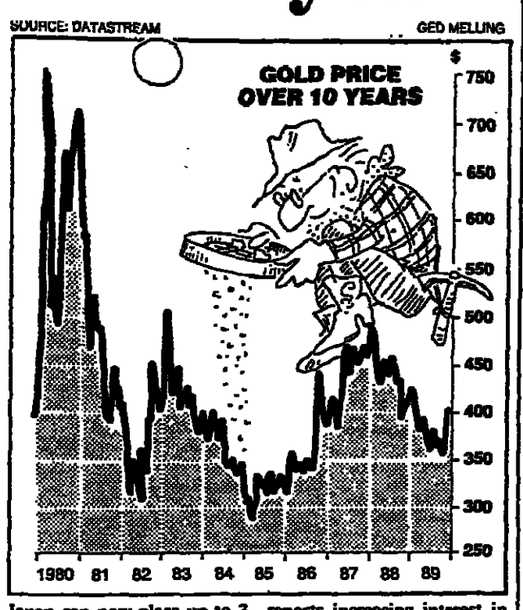
In charting terms, analysts say the next resistance ceiling to be challenged is at $430 an ounce, though because of the recent sharp advances some profit-taking on the way up must be expected.

The managers of the 10 gold funds available to unit trust investors thus warn that plotting the next move will not be an easy undertaking.

Mr Julian Baring, who manages James Capel's Gold & General fund, puts the latest rise down to market nervousness. Others point the finger at a weaker dollar, uncertainty over Eastern Europe and strong Japanese demand for bullion.

Mr Brian O'Neill, who manages Gartmore gold fund, favours the Japanese theory. Following a relaxation of rules, insurance companies in Japan can now place up to 3 per cent of their assets into gold or related stocks.

SOURCE: DATASTREAM GED MELLING



"This is to help them get around the risk of a catastrophic earthquake in Japan," said Mr O'Neill. "It can't be long before the life companies are allowed to do the same, creating stronger demand for tons of gold."

Although gold has gained 10 per cent almost overnight, the prospect of further gains is less certain. "I find it difficult to see a bull market in gold while interest rates remain high," said Mr O'Neill. "Investors should put 2 to 3 per cent of their assets into gold, but no more than that."

Mr Nigel Hale, who runs MIM Britannia's gold fund, reports increasing interest in the metal from financial advisers. He expects the price to settle then rally next year.

Investors backing a rise in gold can either buy the metal itself in the form of gold coins or put money into a unit trust gold fund. But the funds have not performed well over five years or more, and now look expensive, following strong gains in the price of gold shares this year.

MIM Britannia Gold, top performer of all 1300 unit trusts in October, is ranked near the bottom of the league over five years, according to Micropal. Govett Gold & Minerals, NM Gold and Target Gold & General fall in the last 25 over the same period.

Alexander chiefs plan to intervene in investor firms

The new directors of Alexander Securities, the controversial share dealing company, are to intervene in the running of two businesses whose shares were promoted to investors by Alexander's previous management.

As revealed in Family Money last Saturday, Alexander Securities was fined £25,000 by the watchdog body Fimbra for offences committed by the firm before it changed hands. It is now owned by Investrust, a Luxembourg company.

Under its original ownership, Alexander's telephone sales staff sold large numbers of shares in Swanyard Studios and BOM Holdings, the former Bristol Oil and Minerals business.

Swanyard is headed by Mrs Margarita Hamilton, wife of Mr Rai Hamilton, the previous owner of Alexander Securities. BOM Holdings is run by Mr Michael Lucas, who is connected to a company which at one time was part-owner of Alexander.

Swanyard made a rights issue a year ago at 2.5p per share, but the shares have languished recently, changing hands at below 2p each.

BOM attempted a major rights issue last December, but the Stock Exchange authorities intervened, claiming that the shareholders were not being given adequate information by the company. BOM shares have remained suspended ever since that time.

Alexander Securities still owns substantial stakes in both Swanyard and BOM Holdings. This week, the new directors of Alexander Securities have discussed how they can use their shares with the support of Alexander clients, to intervene in the running of the two companies.

A new director of Alexander Securities, Mr Bernard Garner, formerly a senior official with Fimbra, said: "Our first concern here, as new management, is to see BOM Holdings re-quoted, and we are pursuing that."

One possibility, according to another Alexander Securities newcomer, solicitor Mr Lynne Brooke, is for Alexander to use its influence to put a "corporate doctor" into BOM Holdings.

Mr Brooke is also optimistic that Alexander's stake in Swanyard can be used to help other shareholders. "The directors are looking at requisitioning an extraordinary general meeting and replacing board members, and trying to find a corporate deal which is going to set it straight," he explained. "These are the two main corporate transactions which need tidying up."

Mr Brooke also disclosed that as part of a break with the company's previous management, the new owners of Alexander are vetting future investments more stringently before offering them to clients. "I think the new owners are behaving very responsibly," he said. "They are looking much more closely at shares which are put to them as principals and turning a fair number down as unsuitable."

Tony Hetherington

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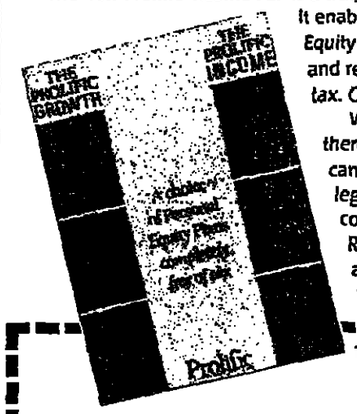

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Mortgage deals to lighten load

Mortgage lenders are bending and twisting mortgage packages to make current high rates bearable.

Chase de Vere Homeloans (Tel 01-930 7242) has a five-year plan where the true rate is guaranteed to fall. In the first year the rate is 13.95 per cent. It falls to 13.45 per cent in the second year, then to 12.95 per cent, 12.45 per cent and finally 11.95 per cent in the fifth year. Monthly payments can be reduced by deferring some of the interest each year — starting at 4 per cent in the first year, 3 per cent in the second, and so on.

"We call this the incredible shrinking mortgage rate," said Mr Simon Tyler. "Rates would have to fall quite fast for anyone to lose out by taking this on."

Nationwide Anglia has taken the opposite tack with a low-start mortgage which trickles higher interest rates through during the first five years of the loan. The overall interest rate is the standard 14.5 per cent. Payments are cut by 3 per cent in the first year, 2 per cent in the second and 1 per cent in the third. Deferred payments are made in the loan's fifth year.

As the initial payments are lower, salary multiples can be increased to four times single income or three times joint income. Maximum advance is 90 per cent.

V.G.

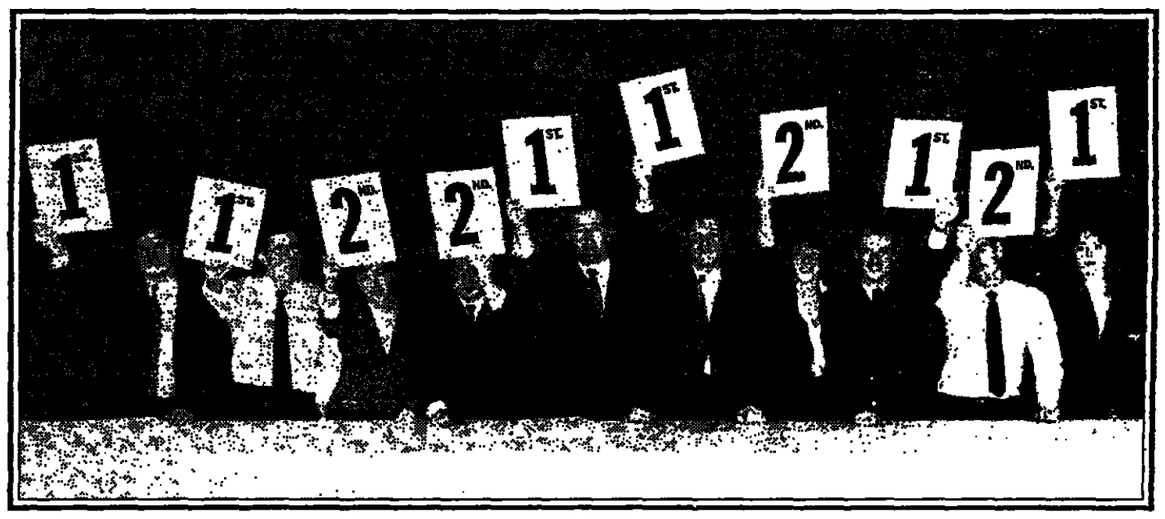
Members call Time

Members of Time Assurance *Friendly Society this week* voted overwhelmingly for the society to be taken over by Templeton Global Investors Ltd.

At a special general meeting in Oldham, Lancashire on Thursday the number of votes cast were almost 25 per cent of the society's membership. For takeover were 9,886 and against were 499, well above the 75 per cent majority required.

The new corporate firm will be known as Templeton Life Assurance Ltd. The merger has still to be authorized by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Members of the Fleet Friendly Society are also being asked to vote on a takeover by the Homeowners Friendly Society. A special general meeting will be held in London on December 15.



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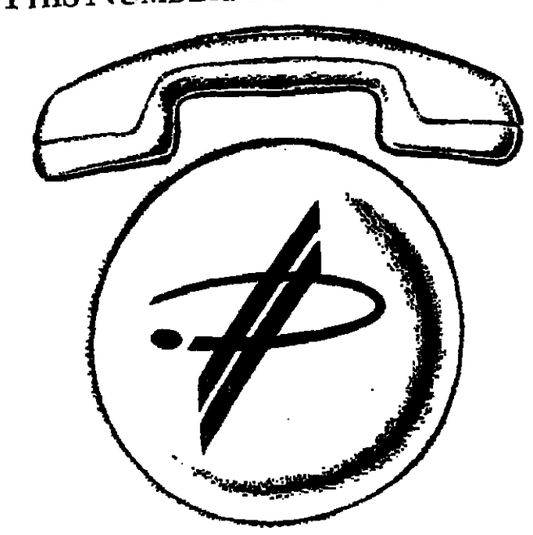

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Working to find value in shares

Victoria Griffith examines some of the benefits and pitfalls behind employee share ownership plans, the latest company incentive tool

Providing a way to save jobs: Peter Williamson, a union official, who says workers should have had more say in the Harland and Wolff shipyard Esops

An Employee Share Ownership Plan (Esop) places equity in the hands of a company's workers, with voting power under the control of an Esop trust. The trust then casts votes on the employees' behalf.

The scheme is usually run by senior management, but can include representatives from the workforce, which makes the company eligible for further tax breaks.

In Britain, Esops are usually a gift from the company to its workers in an effort to improve productivity. But workers are sometimes asked to find the money themselves, either from savings or a bank loan through the Esop trust.

Participation in Esops has made Mr Brian Lemon £4,400 richer. A welder at Llanelli Radiators he made the money when he sold his holdings in Llanelli to Calsonic of Japan, which took over the Welsh group in June.

He said: "Not a bad return on a £500 investment over 18 months. I never expected to make so much on the thing."

The experience has made him an Esop enthusiast. Mr Lemon, who is also the senior union representative at the company, said: "All of us at Llanelli would do it again, if we got the chance."

Not all workers involved in Esops fare as well as those at Llanelli. What employees get out of a share ownership scheme very much depends on the terms and conditions of the plan and the financial health of the company involved.

Mr Laurie Brennan of Newbridge Street Consultants, a leading authority on Esops, said: "A certain amount of caution needs to be used when setting up an Esop."

Mr Brennan believes Britain can learn much from the mistakes of American companies. Esops originated in the US and, fuelled by enormous tax incentives, quickly became an important financial tool. However, Esops have come under fire there by a disillusioned workforce which sees the schemes as nothing more than a managerial trick.

There are three important considerations in assessing an Esop from an employee's viewpoint: the downside risk involved — whether or not workers have to put up their own money — the degree of subsequent employee control over the business, and job security.

Recently, an Esop at Harland and Wolff, the shipbuilder, became the first British attempt at a company rescue. Mr Peter Williamson, the senior union representative at the company, said the scheme, which was set up in September, gave the workers a chance to keep their jobs.

He added: "When the Government took away our subsidy, it pretty much closed us down. The Esop was our only chance, but it was also a risky option for us. There's not a single shipbuilder in the world making money right now, so it's not very likely that we're going to make a profit on our investment."

The danger for the workers of Harland and Wolff is that the company will go out of business anyway — leaving them with worthless shares and no employment. Indeed this was the fate of many Esops in the US, where the schemes were commonly used as last-ditch attempts to rescue foundering businesses.

Mr Williamson insists that, from the workers point of view, the terms of the Harland and Wolff Esop could have been much more favourable. The company's management went directly to the workers, instead of using the union to set up the deal.

He said: "We could have secured a much better position for the employees than management did. For one thing, none of us would have had to put up money because we could have financed it with a loan from the union bank unity trust, which we could have paid out over five years."

Referring to new legislation which requires employee representation in the Esop trust in order for the company to qualify for further tax breaks, Mr Williamson added: "We would also have asked for more say in the way the company is run. Not only would this have given us more control over our own future, it would have put us in a better tax position."

Every Esop is placed in the hands of a trust, usually run by senior managers, but occasionally with worker representation. Representation on the ESOP trust gives workers a say in bids, redundancies and other company affairs.

Mr Williamson believes that, had the terms of the Esop been more favourable, workers would have put up far more money. As it was, only £1.3 million of the expected £2.5 million was raised from employees.

Llanelli and Harland and Wolff are extreme examples of the risks and rewards of Esops in Britain. Most are used purely as incentive schemes, and do not require workers to put up any money at all. Shares are simply handed over to employees in the hope that they will take more interest in their work. This is contrary to the experience in the US, where most Esops were funded through company pension schemes. After the 1987 crash, many were left with shares worth next to nothing, and no pension either.

Most companies that hand out free shares to employees require workers to have been at the firm a certain number of years before participating. At Roadchef, the motor services group which set up the first Esop in Britain in 1987, the qualification is three-year tenure.

Esops should be easier to implement in Britain from next year, with new legislation coming on to the books. For the first time, for instance, a public company may be able to purchase its own shares to give to employees.

Fimbra goes to war over listing

By Jon Ashworth

A row has broken out between investment watchdogs over how financial advisers should be classified in the telephone directory.

The argument may appear minor, but it has led to raised tempers at Fimbra, the Financial Intemediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association.

The Yellow Pages groups financial consultants together under one heading, whether they are independent or tied. Fimbra says this is misleading and it would like separate categories.

Yellow Pages has suggested the introduction of a risk warning to alert readers that not all the advisers listed may be able to give independent advice.

This, says Fimbra, is not enough. Introducing separate categories is the best way of steering customers towards objective advice, Fimbra claims.

A spokesman said: "Our research shows most people want to deal with independent advisers, but don't know where to find them. Most people go to their bank manager as a first step — without realising that most of them are now tied."

Thomson Local Directories has introduced separate listings, and Fimbra would like Yellow Pages to do the same. It claims that using a separate listing would be financially attractive to the directory, since solicitors, accountants and insurance brokers would be encouraged to take out duplicate listings.

Money, whether making it or spending it, lies at the heart of the argument. Yellow Pages says it wants to offer the best service to its 25 million readers, without upsetting regular advertisers.

"The truth is that there are more tied agents than independents," said Mr Richard Duggleby, head of customer services. "We have to live with the fact that we are never going to keep everybody happy."

Legal & General invests again

By Rodney Hobson

Legal & General, the insurance company that caused a stir in September by saying it had "gone liquid" in anticipation of a stock market fall, is buying shares again.

Legal & General says in its November issue of *Fundamentals*: "We have seen a slightly larger fall in UK equities than the 10 per cent which we predicted. We are, therefore, beginning to see value in the market and have started to reinvest some of the cash raised earlier."

It said in September that it had turned up to 10 per cent of all of its funds into cash during the previous two months, pointing out that even if the market was steady, it would still earn more from putting cash on deposit than holding shares. At the time that it made its strategy public, shares had already lost 2 to 3 per cent.

In the event, Legal & General was also spared some of the effects of the small crash in October, plus the rise in base rates to 15 per cent and the resignation of Mr Lawson as Chancellor.

Now it is taking a longer term view, while admitting that the political risk in Britain has changed.

It says: "We can afford to look through the short-term nervousness and focus rationally on the outlook for profits and dividends. On that basis, the UK, European and Japanese markets look reasonable value."

Legal & General argues that just as it was important not to get carried away by the euphoria of August, when the FT-SE 100 index reached 2,400, it is necessary to get the new level of the equity market in perspective.

With dividend growth likely to continue, shares will yield more than 5.5 per cent if the index stays at about 2,100.

The insurer said: "Yields reach those sort of levels only in recessionary times when there are genuine fears of dividend cuts."

It added: "While we would admit to some concern over both next year's profits and the political climate, we are committing some of our cash back into equities since they ought to give the marginally better return over the next 12 months."

LETTERS

Give and take

From Mr RK Edwards

Dear Sir, What you don't tell your readers (*Give as you earn*, November 11) is that 3 per cent of all gross receipts is creamed off at the start for the National Council of Voluntary Organisations. At least it is in the case of the Charities Aid Foundation, which was set up by the NCVO. It may well be that other charities' organisations have similar arrangements for a rake-off.

No doubt the NCVO is a worthwhile cause, but it isn't the one people wish their money to go to under the scheme. I wonder if this is among the reasons for low take-up. It is the reason I didn't join. Incidentally, surely the largest employers involved are local authorities. They collect the money and send it on (from their pensioners as well as their staff) entirely free of charge.

Yours faithfully,
RK EDWARDS,
Upton Dené,
Grange Road,
Sutton, Surrey.

Puzzling question behind Peps

From Revd CCR Merivale

Sir, Your Saturday edition (November 18) is filled with a bewildering variety of advertisements from investment managers looking for my savings. I am tempted by monthly savings schemes into Peps/unit trusts but on the other hand all the investment trust companies say that their management charges are lower than those of unit trusts. Does the tax saving on a Pep/unit trust outweigh the advantages of an assurance of lower management charges from an investment trust? It puzzles me that the investment trust companies don't appear to offer a monthly saving scheme for a Pep/investment trust.

Yours faithfully,
REVD CCR MERIVALE,
Burnley Close,
Truro, Cornwall.

● *Savings schemes linked to investment trust peps are, in fact, widely available, although there are generally extra costs in investing in an investment trust through a Pep. Companies with monthly savings schemes include Alliance Trust, Guinness Mahon, Henderson, Ivory & Sime, Murray Johnstone and Touche Remnant. The Association of Investment Trust Companies deals with enquiries. Tel 01-588 5347.*

Finding a pensions omission

From O M Jubb

Sir, you reported on November 11 that the Secretary of State for Social Security is to set up a pensions ombudsman as part of a radical package of pensions reforms.

An omission from the scheme appears to be the state retirement pension scheme. Is this to avoid the embarrassment of ministers who decline to justify or rectify injustices in the scheme which they control?

Yours faithfully,
O M JUBB
St Anne's Close,
Pittville,
Cheltenham.

Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 23).

Share No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Bid	Weekly Total
1	+5	+3	+5	+5	+2		
2	+5	+3	+7	+3	+6		
3	+3	+5	+5	+5	+6		
4	+3	+5	+2	+5	+3		
5	+2	+2	+4	+6	+5		
6	+6	+3	+5	+4	+4		
7	+7	+6	+3	+5	+4		
8	+4	+3	+4	+6	+2		
9	+4	+4	+3	+5	+5		
10	+6	+4	+2	+4	+5		
11	+7	+3	+6	+4	+4		
12	+4	+3	+5	+6	+7		
13	+7	+3	+2	+4	+3		
14	+4	+2	+5	+3	+5		
15	+4	+4	+3	+4	+3		
16	+3	+3	+4	+5	+6		
17	+3	+2	+4	+5	+2		
18	+2	+5	+3	+7	+5		
19	+6	+5	+4	+2	+6		
20	+2	+5	+3	+4	+4		
21	+4	+4	+2	+7	+6		
22	+3	+5	+5	+3	+5		
23	+6	+2	+3	+3	+5		
24	+5	+3	+4	+3	+5		
25	+5	+3	+5	+5	+4		
26	+3	+3	+4	+6	+6		
27	+7	+2	+2	+5	+3		
28	+4	+3	+5	+4	+5		
29	+5	+2	+5	+5	+4		
30	+3	+2	+7	+2	+4		
31	+3	+4	+5	+5	+7		
32	+5	+5	+7	+2	+5		
33	+6	+5	+3	+3	+4		
34	+4	+2	+2	+4	+3		
35	+3	+3	+3	+6	+2		
36	+5	+2	+5	+4	+3		
37	+5	+2	+5	+3	+5		
38	+6	+2	+3	+5	+4		
39	+3	+3	+3	+5	+6		
40	+7	+2	+2	+4	+3		
41	+4	+5	+3	+3	+3		
42	+2	+5	+3	+7	+7		
43	+5	+2	+3	+3	+4		
44	+6	+3	+3	+4	+6		

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Scottish Investment Trust plc
Year end results to 31 Oct 1989

Total assets £552.3m (1988 £467.7m) +18.1%

Net asset value per ordinary unit 197.8p (1988 166.5p) +18.9%

Dividend per ordinary unit 3.68p (1988 3.20p) +15%

* Figures calculated to include reinvested income over five years to 31 October 1989. Source AITC and Micropal Ltd.

Please note that share prices can fall as well as rise and past performance is no guarantee for the future.

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FAMILY MONEY

Conal Gregory reports on two types of whole life insurance

When the breadwinner looks to family security

There are two ways of providing a cash surge for families when the breadwinner dies – either a simple whole of life insurance policy which pays out a set sum on death, or the more recent "unitized whole of life" contract.

The premiums vary considerably. On a whole of life policy for a 35-year-old non-smoking man who wants £150,000 paid out on his death, Scottish Widows will charge £35.64 per month, Norwich Union £32.70 and Zurich Assurance £33.25. There is no tax relief on these payments.

The major difference between this simple policy and the unitized whole of life method of securing such financial peace of mind is that with the latter there is also a cash payment where the life-insured person survives.

Hill Samuel is typical with its Flexible Protection Plan. The same 35-year-old non-smoking male quoted above can secure £150,000 cover for £30.21 and the smoker for £42.36. At the end of 10 years, the projected value is £1,020 for the smoker and £997 for the non-smoker, assuming a 10.5 per cent return per annum.

For cover of £250,000, the non-smoking male pays just £49.36 a month and a smoker £68.23. Each can expect cash payouts of £1,700 and £1,780 after a decade with 10.5 per cent per annum growth.

Watch the small print for the surrender values on these policies. It is unusual to have any cash returned if the policy is cancelled at the end of the first year. If the payments become too onerous, there is some compensation beyond the life cover. With the Hill Samuel example, a male who smokes would receive £312 after four years, assuming only 8.75 per cent per annum return based on £250,000 cover while the non-smoking female could expect £362.

Where really high cover is wanted, a financial questionnaire has usually to be completed. This is to counter the possibility of fraud or the "John Stonehouse effect" as one broker put it. Single males can also expect to answer a "lifestyle" questionnaire which enquires about whether or not the applicant has had an Aids blood test.

Although many of these policies receive less marketing by the insurance companies, they are ready-made for the vulnerable young family with commitments. Both schemes have a series of medical questions which include asking if a person has consulted a doctor in the last five years and if they have suffered lung trouble. The questionnaires may go on to ask about bronchitis, asthma and TB, heart conditions and a host of other disorders and diseases.

Actuaries need to know the risk element involved of the individual applying for cover but it is not usual for insurance companies to enquire further about the health of other relatives.

Insurance companies will also ask applicants about their pursuit of hazardous sports such as pot-holing or sub-aqua. They need to know too if insurance has ever been postponed, refused or accepted on modified terms.

Most insurance companies require the applicant's doctor to complete a questionnaire for which they pay him. Where the cover required is more than £150,000 an insurer also requires a medical examination of the applicant by its own doctor.

MONTHLY INSURANCE RATES

Monthly rate for £250,000 life cover for 35-year-old

Insurance company	Male smoker	Male non-smoker	Female smoker	Female non-smoker
Scottish Widows	82.50	59.40	40.00	26.60
Norwich Union	63.70	53.70	33.70	23.70
Zurich Assurance	74.35	54.35	40.60	26.85
Hill Samuel*	68.23	49.36	60.14	41.07

* Premiums guaranteed for 10 years. These policies offer cash sums of £1,780, £1,700, £3,510, £2,630 respectively, assuming a 10.5 per cent return p.a.

Keeping an eye out for contact lense aftercare

By Victoria Griffith

Contact lenses have the dubious distinction of being one of the easiest things in the world to lose. Those small, clear slippery discs go missing so often that images of a blinded wearer desperately feeling around the ground for one is a well worn joke.

But with even cheap versions retailing at about £80 a pair, contact lense wearers may have a hard time seeing the funny side if they do lose a lens. They have three financial options.

One is to take part in an "aftercare" scheme available through opticians. A payment of £22.95 a year at Four Eyes allows customers to purchase lenses at half price. Lenses that cost £40 each, for instance, can be repurchased for about £20.

It is not necessary to prove loss or damage and the wearer can buy an unlimited number of lenses at the reduced price. The scheme also offers 15 per cent off cleaning solution, which can cost about £7 a month. The plan includes a one-year check-up and professional cleaning, worth £32.50p.

Pearle Vision Centre has a similar plan, with an annual premium of £22.95p. Again, 15 per cent off solution, and free check-ups are included. Lenses can be replaced for about 45 per cent of the original price.

Aftercare schemes are even cheaper at John Lewis Opticians, where just £10 a year buys half-price replacements and free examinations. Cleaning solution is 15 per cent off for all customers. All these schemes are available only to people who were previously fitted for lenses at the store.

Another option is to insure the lenses. Lenses insurance is not easy to obtain, but Northway Insurance Brokers offer cover on £50 worth of hard lenses for £13 a year. £17.50p for soft lenses. No excess applies, but restrictions are fairly severe. General Accident offers cover to home insurance customers. All its policies reimburse contact wearers for loss stemming from fire, theft, flood and the usual home accidents. But it offers besides an insurance for accidental loss to its home policy holder where premiums are 10 per cent for hard lenses, 15 per cent for soft and 12.5 per cent for gas-permeable, all with a £25 excess.

Students to lose DSS benefits under new top-up loan scheme

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The Education (Student Loans) Bill, which was published last Wednesday, contains little detail of how the scheme will work, other than colleges having to certify that a student is a student, and that the loans will (for the time being) be interest free.

If the *Top-up Loans for Students* White Paper published a year ago, gets on to the statute book students from 1990 will receive a maintenance grant of £2,155 a year outside London (£2,650 inside) but will be able to borrow £420 (£460) a year until their final year when it will fall to £310.

Repayments on the loan will not be made until a graduate is earning 85 per cent of the average national wage and will probably be spread over five to 10 years. Loans will steadily be increased as a proportion of a student's total maintenance to the point at which they make up half the allowance estimated by the Department of Education and Science to be enough to keep the body and soul of an undergraduate together.

Students are however, to lose their right to income support in the holidays and to housing benefit, which at present is offered to those living in rented accommodation outside college.

Ministers say that the gain on the loans will more than offset the loss of housing benefit and argue that the social security system was never intended to service the needs of students. This, according to an independent survey for the DES, is probably true for the average student, but those who expect to be living in high-rent areas like the South-east and Bristol may have to tighten their belts.

According to the *Student Income and Expenditure Survey*, the average student claims £158 a year in housing benefit. The average college rent came to £1,115 compared to £1,311 in the private sector where the bulk of students find their digs for at least two years. Rents increased by 26 per cent in the private sector last year while those in halls of residence went up by 14 per cent.

"During the 1988/89 academic year, the average student earned £187, plus £502 during the summer vacation. The equivalent figures from the 1986/87 survey, adjusted for inflation, were £107 and £350," the income and expenditure survey said.

Whether this reflects increased opportunities for employment because of the recent economic boom or a greater need for students to earn money to support themselves is unclear. All the signs are that the skills shortage will become more acute over the next decade and there should be little difficulty in getting part-time work, even with half a degree.

Some 40 per cent of parents are not making up the full cost of maintenance for the 70 per cent of students who do not get a full grant, and the loans scheme is bound to give a financial lift to them as all students are eligible.

Spending patterns have changed little among students over the years. Food accounts for 16 per cent of total outlay, travel and course-related expenses 11 per cent, leisure travel and entertainment 20 per cent and "other items" 21 per cent. The remaining 32 per cent goes in rent.

NEW TAX LEGISLATION
HOW MUCH COULD YOU SAVE?

COUPLE A		COUPLE B	
HUSBAND: Management consultant, 45 yrs old		HUSBAND: Pensioner, 79 years old	
WIFE: Part time receptionist		WIFE: Pensioner, 88 years old	
INCOME: Salaries, bank and building society interest	£58,800	INCOME: State and occupational pensions, building society interest	£14,130
Total tax liability from April 5:	£17,471	Total tax liability from April 5:	£2,433
POTENTIAL TAX SAVING following Burns-Anderson's Best Advice Strategy	£872	POTENTIAL TAX SAVING following Burns-Anderson's Best Advice Strategy	£1,182

COUPLE C	
HUSBAND: Retired senior manager, 68 years old	
WIFE: Non-working pensioner	
INCOME: Pensions, investment and deposits interest	£30,830
plus capital gains	£12,000
Total tax liability from April 5:	£10,277
POTENTIAL TAX SAVING following Burns-Anderson's Best Advice Strategy	£3,984

From next April, husbands and wives will be taxed independently.

Which means that by simply reorganising your income, savings and investments you could make substantial savings on the tax you pay.

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American Smaller Companies	55.52p	52.19p	6.00%	NIL	31st March	1.25%	2.0%
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FAMILY MONEY

Ian Hunter looks at renting as an alternative to buying

Rooms with a view to cutting the overheads

It is a sobering thought that, according to the London Property File, the average prices of studio and one-bedroom flats in the capital, are £84,425 and £108,315 respectively.

This is of little comfort to first-time buyers in London where the average earnings of men aged beween 21 and 24 are £13,280, and just £10,440 for women.

Interest rate levels now dictate monthly repayments of about £530 on a mortgage of £50,000, rising to £1,150 on a loan of a £100,000.

Faced with such a bleak outlook some may find renting an attractive alternative to buying for the immediate future.

The rented market has also received a boost through the Business Expansion Scheme, which offers substantial tax concessions to those investing in rented property.

And the 1988 Housing Act permits landlords of new lets to rent property at market prices secure in the knowledge that possession can be obtained at the end of the let.

There are increasing numbers of flat agencies offering a wide range of accommodation. Rooms are advertised for as little as £35 per week, while the rental on a house can rise to as much as £1,000 per week depending on the area.

In many cases it is now substantially cheaper to rent a flat instead of taking out a 100 per cent mortgage in order to buy it.

Flat agencies require certain details before they can start the search for a suitable let. They usually hold an interview at the agency's office, but some interview by telephone.

Clients are normally asked for their occupation, age, the price they are willing to pay, and the area and type of accommodation they are interested in.

Some agencies advertise "tenants — no fees" preferring instead to charge the landlord for their services. Those agencies that do charge the tenant normally require, on completion of the tenancy agreement, one month's rent in advance plus a further month's rent as a deposit.

If the tenant remains in accommodation longer than a month then an agency fee becomes payable. This is usually a week or a week and a half's rent.

Mr Tim Wilde, an articled clerk who used the services of one agency, was unimpressed with its service. He was prepared to pay £60 per week for a room yet in more than two months the agency supplied only one address.

According to Mr Wilde "the room was cramped, overpriced and clearly unsuitable. The agency obviously hadn't bothered to inspect the room before recommending it. The visit was a waste of time. What surprised me most was the absence of any requirement to supply references."

The London University accommodation bureau said students intending to use flat agencies were cautioned against handing over money in exchange for accommodation lists, or for registering personal details. Attempts to charge for lists, or for registering, is illegal under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953.

If the agency does intend to charge for its services it should specify what it intends to provide. Any fee should be paid only once the tenancy agreement has been completed.

Students are advised to check any tenancy agreement drawn up by the agency before signing to ensure they fully understand who is responsible for the payment of the rates and any service charge.

The university also reminds students that local and national newspapers, together with advertisements in shop windows offer alternative sources in which to find rented accommodation. A view, Mr Wilde, who found his flat by answering a newspaper advertisement, agrees with.

TIM BISHOP

Read all about it: Tim Wilde found a newspaper of more use than a flat agency in his search

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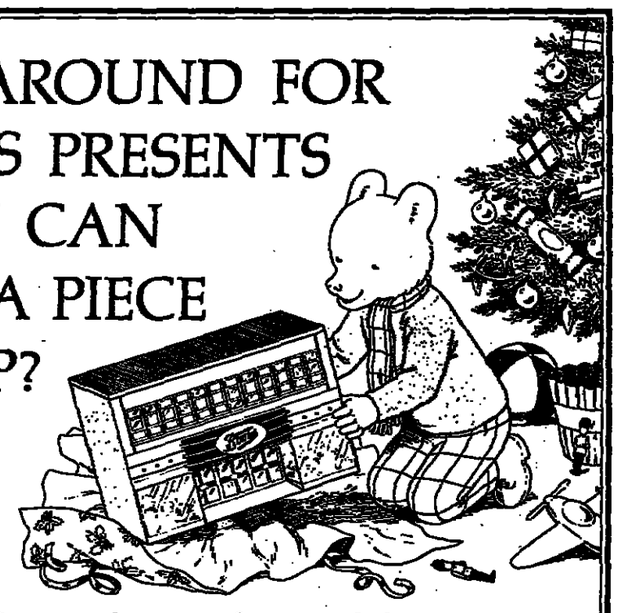

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FAMILY MONEY

Steering on a slippery slope

Rachel Warren takes a look at insurance deals available on skiing holidays

Financial pains ahead: for this skier the agony has only just begun — he has yet to discover whether his insurance policy will cover all his expenses

As thousands more skiers take to the slopes this winter, insurers have given warning of a disturbing new trend — litigation.

Personal liability cover, in case you injure someone or damage someone else's property, is spiralling upwards, reflecting higher awards, more incidents on increasingly crowded slopes and a crackdown by countries enforcing the Federation Internationale de Ski (FIS) rules — the skier's highway code.

Mr Colin Allum of Fogg Travel Insurance, the winter sports specialist insurer, said: "We've had one request from a skier going to Colorado to up his cover to £3 million."

Although £30,000 is the highest award he has heard of in Europe, Mr Allum fears the figures could rise dramatically.

He said: "In the next year, I think you are likely to see some companies raising their cover to £2 million or £3 million and I think the market will move to a standard £1 million cover."

Douglas Cox Tyrie, another winter sports specialist, has doubled its personal liability cover to £1 million for the United States in its new "Ameripack" for the 1989/90 skiing season. It has also added £5,000 legal expenses cover to all its winter sports packages to help skiers fight for compensation such as loss of earnings if they are injured by somebody else.

Straightforward medical care remains the dominant factor in ski insurance claims, representing about 45 per cent of all cases, according to Fogg.

Mr Ray Morley, marketing services manager of the Travellers Insurance Association, said: "You're three times more likely to do yourself damage on a skiing holiday than if, for instance, you're sunning yourself on a beach in Benidorm. Therefore, we charge three times the basic rate." TIA is a Commercial Union subsidiary and one of the many companies which arrange cover for American and European ski package tours.

Other insurers, such as AA Travelsure, double regular holiday premiums so that a policy for a fortnight's skiing in North America may cost at least £70 per person.

Fogg's innovation this season is a plastic "medi-card" which policyholders will carry to identify themselves and their insurers in case of emergencies to make sure they get the best care available on the spot.

This is an obvious advantage in the US, where insurance tends to dictate the quality of treatment. It also rivals France's Carte Neige — widely used by French skiers to provide instant insurance details.

Douglas Cox Tyrie is issuing similar cards. But while Fogg's is specifically for medical purposes, DCT's trilingual (French, German and English) version covers the whole insurance policy, useful if a skier finds himself in jail and needs to produce the document.

Mr Michael Pettifer, a Douglas Cox Tyrie director, believes the standard £1 million medical cover is inflated. It might impress a public influenced by the odd medical horror story from the slopes, but has little basis in reality, he says.

"Anything over £25,000-£30,000 as a sum insured for medical expenses for skiing in Europe is irrelevant window dressing. You are paying for cover you never actually need. You would have to be in hospital in Switzerland for an entire year."

"In the next year, I think you are likely to see some companies raising their cover to £2 million or £3 million and I think the market will move to a standard £1 million cover"

In fact, skiers protected by a comprehensive private patients' plan in Britain, such as PPP's Family Health Plan, may not need the costly medical element of separate holiday insurance because they are already covered for a period abroad which does not exclude skiing holidays.

The Association of British Insurers suggests that in such cases and where household insurance adequately covers personal belongings when travelling, the individual could consult a broker and get a "pick and choose" holiday insurance package that may work out much cheaper.

Mr Pettifer concedes, however, that a minimum of £100,000 medical cover is usually required for the US because of comparatively high medical fees there and the expense of emergency repatriation if required.

Most policies — both individual and group — are linked to one of the international medical and repatriation agencies, such as Europ Assistance or Trans-Care International, though on an individual policy it is as well to check this.

It is also standard practice for insurers to cover the return travel costs of a friend or relative accompanying the victim. There can, however, be local difficulties as Mr Andrew Jermy, a former medical research scientist discovered when he injured his left leg badly in the Austrian Tyrol this year. He had to stay there for 12 days after breaking a leg.

He said: "The trouble we had was trying to persuade the holiday company rep that my girlfriend Gillian should stay on with me. It wasn't until I was able to get up out of bed and speak personally to the insurance company that they agreed to pay her flight home."

Cancellations account for the second largest component of ski holiday claims — about 25 per cent — said Mr Allum. These may relate to physical injury sustained before departure, sudden illness, a death in the family and so on.

One fashionable new entrant in ski holiday cover — the "no snow" policy, has been somewhat discredited. Holidaymakers have sought compensation if they were unable to ski, whereas insurers have tended to interpret "no snow" as no snow anywhere, so that if a minority of experienced skiers could find snow on a difficult upper run, the cover was inoperable.

Mr Allum, whose company thought up the idea about 12 years ago, said: "It is unfortunate if 80 per cent of a resort is closed and that does give rise to complaints."

Fogg does not write individual retail "no snow" policies, but continues to supply them to the 70-plus winter sports tour operators with whom it deals. As some resorts were completely closed for several days during last winter's mild weather, this entitled "no snow" policyholders to £15-£20 a day.

What has become quite general is for skiers to be transported free, or for a minimal charge, to nearby snowier resorts. Skiers may also opt to cancel or delay their holiday if they discover before departure that snow is lacking at their centre.

Bank loans are a better deal than costly HP

By Victoria Griffiths

"It's yours from Day One!" is the new slogan being used to entice customers into hire-purchase schemes for television sets and videos at Rumbelows. But buyers should think twice before signing on the dotted line — funding a purchase with a loan from a high street bank is much cheaper and the goods really are yours from Day One.

Interest rates for the hire-purchase agreements under Rumbelows' Option Three scheme are high — 41 per cent annually if payments are made by cheque to a Rumbelows branch or 32 per cent if payment is via direct debit. Consumer loans from high street banks can be had for considerably less — 24.4 per cent at NatWest, 23.9 per cent at Barclays and 23.8 per cent at Lloyds.

Moreover, loans can be taken out from anywhere from between six months to five years at most banks, whereas Rumbelows' pay-out period is inflexible at three years.

Hire-purchase schemes at Dixons charge 34.5 per cent annually, with options on 12, 24, 26 and 48 months.

There are a few advantages to hire-purchase. If a customer decides to cancel the agreement, no further payments are necessary. The television is simply repossessed, though no refund is available on previous payments.

And both Dixons and Rumbelows offer the scheme to buyers of equipment on the lower end of the price range.

Lloyds and NatWest require a £500 minimum purchase, making a loan impractical for many television consumers, though still viable if other items — a video for instance — are bought as well. Barclays, on the other hand, has a minimum of only £300 and can easily finance most television purchases.

Rumbelows also provides free servicing on its hire-purchase equipment, although this may not be worth much. The first 12 months are in any case almost always covered by manufacturers' warranty.

Renting is another option. Radio Rentals' rates are higher than interest payments on an equivalent make at Dixons or Rumbelows.

First-year interest on a 21-inch, teletext model by Ferguson, which retails for about £480, will run somewhere between £10 and £13 at Rumbelows and Dixons. At Radio Rentals, the monthly payment is £13.99. And rented equipment is not necessarily new when it arrives.

However, television consumers should remember that if they buy a television they will also have to bear depreciation expense. Renters, on the other hand, have no stake in the equipment and are therefore immune from costs of wear and tear. Renting is more flexible. Customers can cancel Radio Rentals agreements at one month's notice.

Bonds hold the key to council funds

By Conal Gregory

The recent court case over Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Council's forays into the world of interest rate swaps may have worried the many private individuals who buy local authority bonds as steady long term investments.

But private investors form a key part of local authority funding, and stockbrokers quote a selection of bonds redeemable at varying dates.

Mr Jonathan Bradley of UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker, describes the dealing side of local authority bonds as a "thin market," reflecting the fact that councils obtain much of their finance today through the Public Works Loan Board, an unpaid, independent statutory body set up in 1793.

Some councils have redeemed their loans to the public, but several continue, even though the name may have changed. You can still buy or sell GLC 6.75 per cent due 1990-92 at 86½p.

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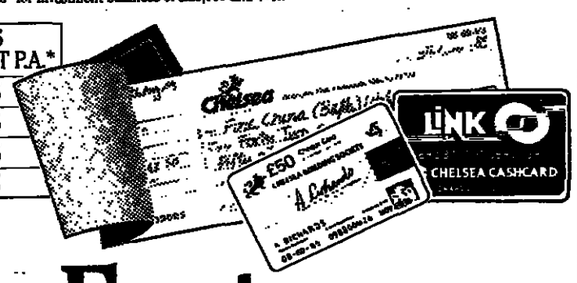

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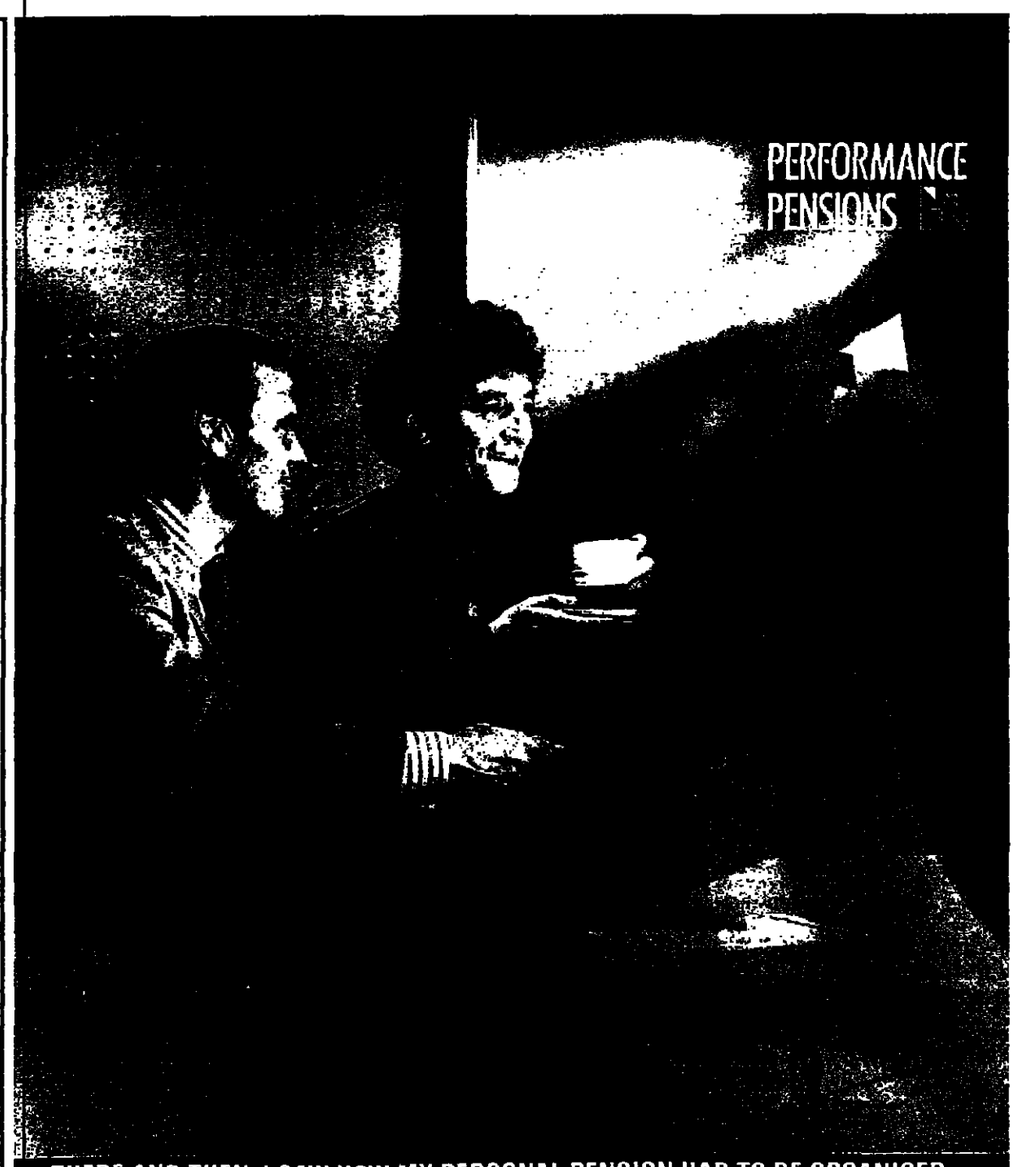

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The angel's share?

INVEST in a hogshead of Aberlour single malt whisky & it won't be ready until the next century † (Or so our head taster, Mr. Mitchell, would have us believe.) ✠ ✠

WHO CAN SAY what the year 2000 will hold?

The rouble doing well against the dollar?

An SDP government?

Traffic flowing unfettered along the M25?

Holidays on Pluto?

England winning back the Ashes?

The *Ritz* in London is already accepting bookings for its 1999 New Year's Eve Ball.

An optimistic gentleman has reserved a table for the occasion at a New York restaurant which is yet to be built. (Well, the service can take almost as long at some London mangeries we could mention.)

A posse of preposterously pecunious revellers recently hired Concorde to whisk them through the time zones so that they can toast the new millennium not once but twice.

While an equally fortunate minority can take the opportunity to invest, en primeur, after the fashion of a top-growth claret, in their own personal hogshead of Aberlour ten-year-old Speyside single malt whisky.

For the benefit of the uninitiated, a HOGSHEAD *consists of a great oak cask containing a minimum of 30 cases, or 360 bottles in all.**

As the offer must, as needs dictate, be strictly limited, each and every bottle will be numbered and, if you wish, inscribed with your name and, fear not, the entire consignment will be delivered well in time for HOGMANAY 1999.

Not only that, but your hogshead comes with its own guardian angel ✠ *Mr. Ian Mitchell* by name, master distiller, distillery manager, taster-in-chief, laird of all he surveys and keeper of the sacred flame of Aberlour.

Maltsman man, boy and wee, wee bairn, born hard by the mash tuns within the confines of a nearby distillery, baptised with the mystical liquor and forty years in harness at Aberlour itself, a full twenty as distillery manager.

Following in the noble traditions of his father and grandfather, a man of gargantuan girth who, in later life, by the by, would oil his vocal chords with Aberlour before stepping forth as the town's last town crier.

Mr. Mitchell, then, is a man literally steeped in the finest single malt whisky. Especially, need it be said, in his much-coveted role of head taster.

And it is in this capacity that Mr. Mitchell will be chiefly concerned with *your* hogshead throughout its ten-year slumber in the cathedral-like quiet and vastness of the old Aberlour cellars, where the stone-flagged floors maintain the necessary chill of midwinter even in the freak warmth of a Highland summer.

So may one suspect Mr. Mitchell of having a sly vested interest in your invested interest?

But of course.

For once the angels have supped their allotted share (the small amount, in other words, that evaporates into the air), there is Mr. Mitchell's own portion of the potion to be reckoned with.

As quality controller, he will sip away merrily year after year: for reasons purely altruistic, you understand.

And not a drop will he allow to pass through the distillery gates [take heed, he has a good view of them from his office window] until a *goodly* amount has passed his lips.

Nor, indeed, until a full ten years have produced a tip-top tipple and an excellent return for your investment.

However, hard though it be to believe when contemplating his beatific countenance, angelic is hardly the epithet that would spring to mind in describing Mr. Mitchell for some at the distillery.

After all, only a hard taskmaster can consistently produce malt whisky of a quality such as this.

Secondly, and most significantly, it is he and he alone who is permitted to taste the HEADY BREW at every stage of its magnificent maturation.

Nonetheless, many of those under his martinet command have attempted, over the years, to snatch the odd snifter by a multiplicity of devious means.

Heath Robinsonesque devices incorporating lead-weights, lengths of glass tubing, balls of string and playing cards have even been employed to extract a magical mouthful from the monstrous oaken casks.

A Hogmanay or two back, an excise man, no less, who will remain nameless, was apprehended at the distillery gates in the very act of making off with two great pails sploshing over with the best ten-year-old malt.

Mr. Mitchell's tasting duties might end at the distillery but they actually begin somewhere quite different from the clammy mists of the Highlands: in the dusty heat of *Jerez* in Spain.

Oh, the onerous existence of a distillery manager!

Here, in the course of an annual visit, our dauntless hero will taste up to forty different sherries to individually select the casks which, combined with bourbon barrels, will invest the malt with the essential measure of sweetness and a light golden hue in the course of ten years' maturation.

Aberlour.

The name is Scottish but it does sound distinctly Welsh. It's all really rather Irish.

Be that as it may, this particular nectar, though relatively unfamiliar (here we must exercise a little discretion) to the perhaps slightly less discerning Sassenach palate, is held in the highest esteem in the Highlands.

So what exactly is it that makes Aberlour, well, Aberlour?

The answer partially lies in the process, beginning with hand-picking the best Scottish barleys from the Black Isle, Moray Coast and the milder Border region.

Once malted, the barley is dried over local Aberdeenshire peat which naturally imparts a unique peaty aroma.

Then we mash the barley and, using the crystal clear waters of our own secret spring up in the foothills of Ben Rinnes, distil not once but twice in stills with a shape reminiscent, some say, of a rising swan, or perhaps, less romantically, of a *prize-winning onion*.

In truth, it's hard to put your finger on *precisely* what makes Aberlour so distinct from other malts.

Perhaps the last word on the matter should go to our chief brewer, Kenny, who simply shrugs his shoulders and puts it down to the mournful bagpipe airs with which he serenades the casks on his regular perambulations around the cellars.

More significantly, perhaps, so well thought of is Aberlour locally that some years ago the good denizens of the little Highland community which is the distillery's domicile voted to revoke the long-standing town name of Charlestown in favour of that of their favourite malt.

Thus did Aberlour beget Aberlour.

And, growing apace from modest beginnings in 1879, Aberlour begat Aberlour and Aberlour begat Aberlour which in turn begat even more Aberlour so that today Aberlour stands proud as the sixth best-selling malt in the world, no less, producing almost a million bottles in 1988 alone.

The distillery's history, however, reaches back rather further into the mists of time, and the fogs of the Highlands, than the reign of the *blessed* VICTORIA. The original distillery was actually built almost a hundred years earlier.

It was no less a figure than St. Dunstan, in fact, who, back in the dark days around 1000 A.D., founded the *first* settlement hereabouts, attracted by the pure waters of the Aberlour spring, both for baptising the local clansmen and, doubtless, though rather less is recorded of this, for welcoming in that previous millennium with a spot of private bibulation.

In any event, the holy man's curriculum vitæ can hardly have been hampered by our own aqua vitæ. His ascent soon afterwards culminated in the post of ARCHBISHOP † OF † CANTERBURY.

And it's nice to imagine the venerable cleric harping as we speak amongst that merry band of angels queuing up in the ether above the distillery to lay claim to their rightful share.

Should you be interested in reserving *your very own place in heaven*, please post off the coupon at the foot of this page and we'll send more information winging your way. Because, when all is said and done, what more felicitous means could one devise for ushering in the new millennium than with the finest single malt whisky? (Or even, may we suggest, a double?)

We have it on the highest authority that Mr. Mitchell will be eternally grateful. ✠

**The cost will be £1350, payable on order. Duty, shipping and VAT, if applicable by the year 1999, will be due on delivery.*

For more details write to: Mr. Ian Mitchell, Millennium Offer, The Aberlour Glenlivet Distillery Company, Aberlour, Banffshire, Scotland, AB3 9PG. Or call 0800 535 8008.

Name ..... *Address* .....

..... *Postcode* ..... *Telephone* .....

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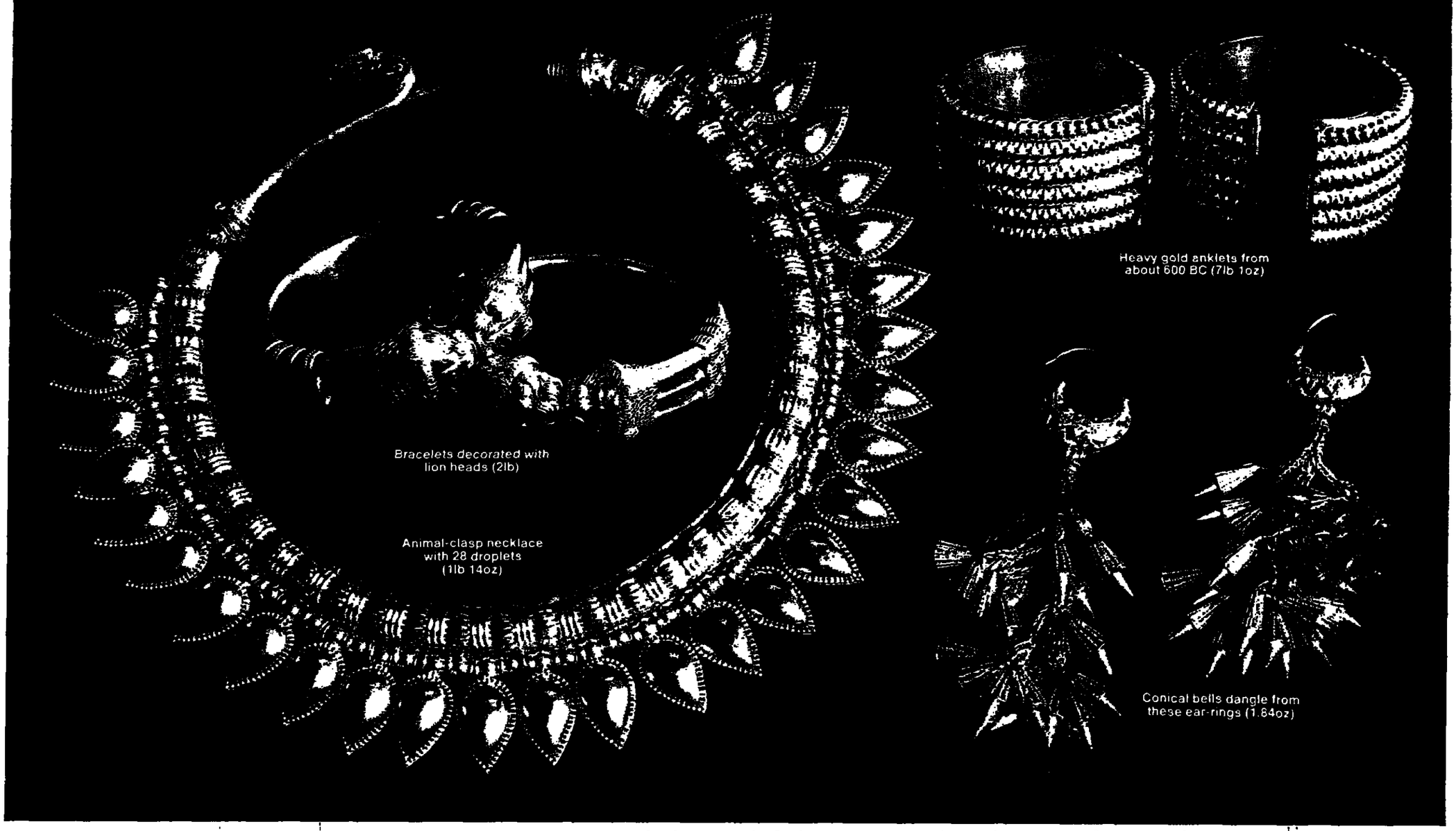
THE TIMES
REVIEW
SECTION 3
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25 1989

HIDDEN TREASURE



In the deserts of Iraq, archaeologists are unearthing the previously overlooked treasures of the Assyrian kings. George Hill reports on the most important finds since the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb in Egypt. Photographs by Stephen Markeson

Nimrud is one of those pregnant mounds of rubble, scattered here and there in the deserts of the Near East, which archaeologists regard as the cradles of human civilization. In other words, they are the vast charnel heaps of unwept and detestable tyrannies overthrown thousands of years ago — concentrations of litter, bones and, occasionally, gold, which bear witness to ancient squalor, cruelty and pride.

Tremulously referred to in the Bible as Calah, "the great city", Nimrud was for centuries a capital of Assyria, perhaps the most ferocious of all the bloodthirsty empires of Mesopotamia. Its presiding deity was Ninurta, god of war. Its ruins were among the first to be excavated by the high-handed archaeologists of Queen Victoria's day: any visitor to the British Museum must have seen the majestic, human-headed, winged lions and bulls which archaeologist Sir Austen Henry Layard took from a dead empire to embellish a living one.

Between 1949 and 1958, Nimrud was painstakingly re-excavated by Sir Max Mallowan, the husband of Agatha Christie, who used her first-hand experience of digs in torrid climates as the setting for one of her most intricate mysteries, *Murder in Mesopotamia*. But Layard and Mallowan never knew that they missed a treasure at Nimrud more glittering than anything they unearthed. For Mallowan in particular, the failure was a tantalizingly near thing. He actually cleared debris away from a small paved room in the labyrinthine ruins of the royal palace, little knowing that just below his feet lay a treasure which has been compared to the legendary finds made a generation earlier in the tomb of Tutankhamun in Egypt.

The upshot is that these superb crowns, necklaces, fragile glasswork and massive golden bracelets, which lay within a few yards of the spot, have gone to the Iraq Museum. Appropriately, they will thus be preserved and displayed on what was once Assyrian soil, in Baghdad, instead of thousands of miles away in Bloomsbury. The parts of the collection which have already been put on display fill two rooms of the Iraq Museum, and the richest finds are not yet ready to go on show.

"I don't think you can blame Mallowan for missing them," says Dr John Curtis, keeper of Western Asiatic Antiquities at the British Museum, who is now in Nimrud as head of a British team excavating another part of the site. "You can't dig under the floor of every single room on the off-chance that there might be a grave there. Mallowan excavated only one of the three rooms where the tombs were found, and there was nothing remarkable about the room in itself."

City of gold: Muzahim Mahmud, of the Iraqi archaeological team, at Nimrud

Curtis believes that the new discoveries show that the part of the palace where they were found must have been the harem wing, where the queens of Assyria lived. A carved inscription identifies one of the tombs as that of Yaba, "palace woman", or queen, of King Tiglath-Pileser III, a soldier who seized power in a military coup in 744 BC and extended the empire in a series of slaughterous campaigns to what may have been its greatest expanse, from Azerbaijan to Syria and the Persian Gulf.

"It was common practice in the Near East to make burials under the floors of buildings," Curtis says. "Knowing what we know now, I think there is more gold under the floor of the palace. It would be very tempting for an archaeologist to go rushing round from room to room after a discovery like this, looking under the pavements and forgetting to do careful research. But the archaeologists from the Iraq Department of Antiquities have been extremely responsible in keeping to their programme of excavation and restoration since making the finds."

The first of the three separate treasure-burials was discovered last year by Muzahim Mahmud, head of the Iraqi team at Nimrud, below the room which had been cleared by Mallowan. The tomb contained golden jewellery, including a large pomegranate-shaped pendant, an ornate brooch with a chain, and ear-rings decorated with delicate flowers. Muzahim was granted permission to resume the search this season.

Recently, he told our photographer, Stephen Markeson, who visited the site and took pictures of some of the finds, how he came across the second and much richer tomb, within 50 yards of the first, in April this year. "Fifteen days after we had started to dig, we found a pottery pipe leading down to the top of a stone barrel-vault. Further digging showed that we had found the roofs of two chambers built in a T-shape. We looked for the entrance, and found one, blocked by two big stones."

This doorway led into an ante-chamber, empty save for a stone tablet with a long inscription in cuneiform script. At one end was an opening which had been bricked up. Breaking through the bricks, Muzahim's team entered a vaulted tomb-chamber containing a sarcophagus nearly eight feet long, covered by two large slabs of stone. He levered a slab off and shone a torch into the coffin.

"I saw the gold, very bright in my eyes, mixed with bones and clothes and dust," he said. "There was gold from head to toe — many, many pieces — a crown, ear-rings and necklaces, and bangles and rosettes fixed on the dress."

The sarcophagus contained a vast array of grave goods, including nearly 90 necklaces, more than 80 gold ear-rings — many of them with elaborate clusters of pendants — and an exquisite golden diadem made from fine wires plaited together in a herring-bone mesh, with a tasselled fringe at the front and tiger-eye rosettes at the sides and at the rear, where the golden ribbon would have flowed down the wearer's back.

There were four heavy gold bracelets inlaid with brightly coloured stones, showing winged figures kneeling beside sacred trees. A gold bowl, embossed with a pharaoh hunting crocodile in a papyrus thicket, appeared from its style to have come from Phoenicia, 500 miles away on the western borders of the Assyrian empire — a unique example of Phoenician gold.

Other vessels, in gold, alabaster and rock crystal, are inscribed with the names of Yaba and the queens of the next two kings of Assyria (remains of at least two skeletons were found in the tomb, and there were burnt ashes which may have been a cremation burial).

Four months after making these finds, Muzahim found a third burial a few yards to the south. This was a more complicated and puzzling collection: three bronze coffins were found higgledy-piggledy in an ante-chamber, filled with an astonishing variety of goods in gold and ivory, with bones and also perishable materials such as wood and light linen fabric. The items even include an ornate glass jar, inlaid with blue plaques and rows of tiny human figures, showing that Assyrian craftsmen had an entirely unsuspected mastery of the art of glassmaking.

Stone double doors turning on carved stone hinges led into a vaulted tomb-chamber like that of the second tomb. It contained a huge stone sarcophagus with an engraved lid, fitting so tightly inside the chamber that the latter must have been built round it. The lid had to be broken before it could be removed. But the searchers found that the coffin was, mysteriously, quite empty.

However, the treasures in the ante-room were even more remarkable than what had been found in the second tomb. As yet they have not been publicly shown, so relatively little is known about them. But they include 440 gold objects, weighing 23 kilos in all — almost twice the weight of the gold in the second tomb.

Among them is a crown, perhaps the masterpiece of the entire collection, which is in the form of a domed openwork hat in gold, decorated around the base with rows of rosettes and pomegranates. Above this, winged genies support an interlaced framework of vine leaves and grapes.

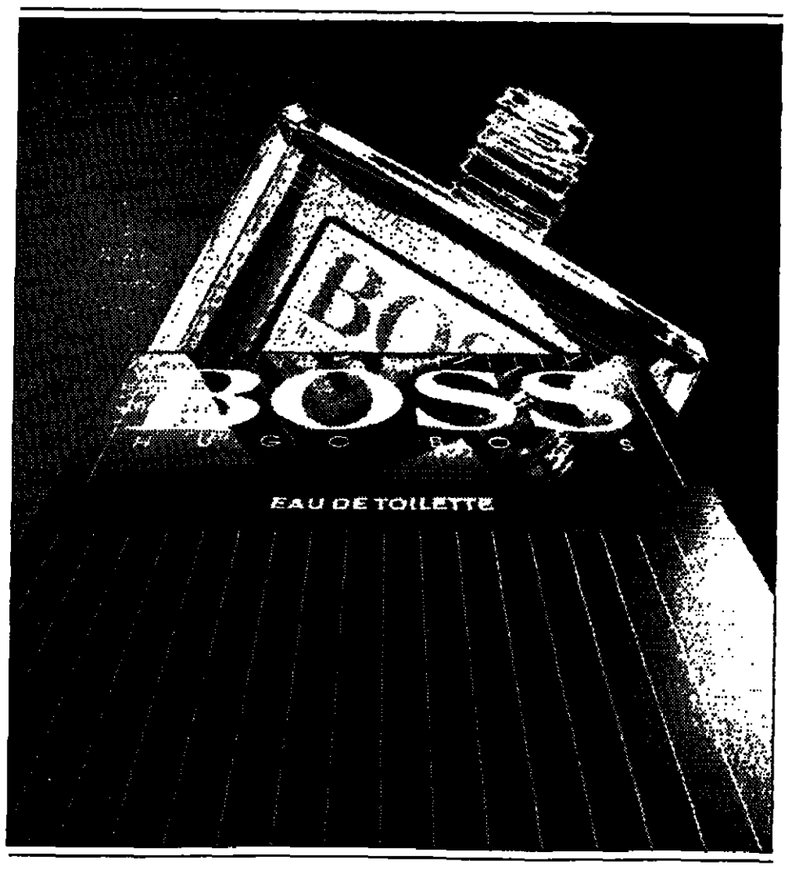
According to unofficial reports, some of the goods carry the name of the queen of one of the greatest and most implacable of all the Assyrian kings, Ashurnasirpal II. This would make them more than a century older than the remains found earlier. Ashurnasirpal reigned from 883 to 859 BC, and was the original builder of the palace. He boasted that he entertained 69,574 guests at its opening ceremonies. Surviving remains show that he had it decorated with superb limestone bas-reliefs showing battle scenes and symbolic fertility rites, in which he was depicted actively participating in both activities. His exploits are unusually well-recorded, for he took care to ensure that posterity would be well-informed about the details of his conquests, and about how he enforced Assyrian dominance over his enemies by beheading, flaying and impaling them — as well as by shuffling the survivors around the empire so that they should lose all sense of territorial identity.

Because Ashurnasirpal and his successors had such sanguinary tastes in interior decoration, few indications have come down to us of the softer side of Assyrian life, such as it was. That is one reason why the new discoveries at Nimrud are so revealing. "The astonishing fineness of the work on the

Continued overleaf

'THE GOLD WAS VERY BRIGHT IN MY EYES. MIXED WITH BONES. GOLD FROM HEAD TO TOE. CROWN, EAR-RINGS, NECKLACES AND BANGLES . . . .'

THE FRAGRANCE FOR MEN



BOSS
HUGO BOSS

THE NED SHERRIN COLUMN

Spitting image of Neighbours

I suppose I must take the televising of the House of Commons seriously, so I have tried out the invaluable SIPS, the Sherrin Interview Poll System. These are the results of a poll conducted (after a good lunch) with several people into *whom I happened to bump in the* King's Road, Chelsea.

- 63 per cent said that seeing MPs as well as hearing them made them more, rather than less, boring.
- 47 per cent said it was not as good as *Neighbours*.
- 11 per cent (mainly children) said they took fright on seeing Mrs Thatcher in close-up. One Conservative voter thought she looked better on *Spitting Image*.
- 7 per cent admired Mr Speaker's wig. One very odd chap said that he always thought Sir Robin Day was the Speaker.
- 8 per cent complained they could not see the MP who always says "Yah, Yah" in the background.
- 5 per cent wanted to know which was Mr Hattersley's favourite restaurant and who was Mr Lawson's dietitian.
- 3 per cent asked the name of Mr Heseltine's barber.
- 2 per cent (mostly Japanese) had never heard of the House of Commons.
- 1 per cent (an Eskimo tourist) had never heard of television.

During the excerpts that I viewed there was, surprisingly, little discussion of the economy. But John Major might like to consider the latest evidence of galloping inflation to hand.

Last week my friend Neil Shand overheard two well-dressed men raising their voices in Ebury Street, Pimlico. "We shouldn't be arguing about a mere 25,000 quid," shouted one.

A few years ago it would have been: "It's only a fiver, squire."

ON TUESDAY I went to the Inn on the Park for the second annual Benedictine After-Dinner Speakers' Awards. Sandwiched between the welcoming Taittinger and the wind-up liqueurs, four fortunates received their prizes — a bottle of Benedictine and a handsome coaster.

Brian Johnston was sports speaker of the year. J. J. Warr qualified in the business section, Jeffrey Archer won the political accolade and Lance Percival triumphed in the showbiz class.

The curious part of the proceedings was their acceptance speeches. Standing in front of a mammoth, dripping ice-sculpture and facing a small audience many of whom were colleagues and rivals, I got the distinct impression that they were hoarding their best set pieces lest they be plundered.

Most after-dinner speakers are used to seeing their best jokes being scribbled down on menus and invitation cards. A computer executive once asked me in the middle of a speech to go slower, so that he could get it all down. But such thieves are really amateurs and there is consolation in knowing that they will probably ruin the jests in the retelling.

No one at the Inn on the Park would have dared to be seen taking notes but, in the event, there was little worth taking down. Were the speakers holding out on us? I think we should be told.

I NEARLY got a satellite dish this week. Although I had not intended to buy one, it has never been my practice to look a gift dish in the mouth.

Last week, White Sands Holidays informed me I had won a cruise or a week in the Bahamas for two or a trip to Disneyland for my partner and me and our two children or a dish and receiving apparatus.

I plumped for the dish. All I had to do was phone the company and be somewhere between teenage and decrepitude. I just qualify inside the upper limit.

I made an appointment for 2.30pm on Saturday at 10 Great Marlborough Street, despite dire warnings from my Radio 4's *Loose Ends* team that I was going to be bamboozled into buying an expensive time-share.

However, White Sands said there were no conditions and I took it at its word. A crowd of us sat around on low sofas. An elderly couple clutching Selfridges bags looked ex-colonial. Indian parents and a small child watched apprehensively, and a seriously overweight doctor needed help to rise when his name was called.

Several dapper young men buzzed in and out with clipboards. Mine was called Mark. He led me briskly to a white table for a briefing.

I had promised to give up an hour and a half of my afternoon. First we had trouble defining my job. Butchers, bakers and candlestick makers were all there on his form, but there was no jack-of-all-trades section.

He moved on to holidays — where did I take mine? I told him I didn't.

"Never?"

"Not if I can help it," I said.

Then why had I come? To get my dish.

Mark looked flummoxed. He summoned his superior who quickly admitted defeat. I was taken to another Mark and processed.

I was soon out in Great Marlborough Street again clutching my voucher. I would have to pay for the installation, but I would be saving £300-£400 and all the goodies that Sky Television can offer would shortly be mine.

There must be a catch in it. There was, but not of White Sands's making. I phoned the agents for my block of flats to see if there was any problem about erecting a dish.

Yes, they said, the lessors and all my fellow tenants must agree. Even if the tenants said yes, the probability was that the lessors would not.

JOHN MINNION

The prospect of nightly communion with Derek Jameson and Frank Bough recedes and I have resigned myself to being dishless in Chelsea.

I HAVE to take issue with dear old Robin Day who managed several inaccuracies in a single paragraph on Libby Purves's Radio 4 programme *Midweek*.

I haven't read his new autobiography yet, but doubtless it compounds them. He dismissed the "so-called satire boom" of the Sixties as lasting only 18 months. In fact there were three and a half seasons over four years, and three television series yielded about 145 shows. He selected the description of Alec Douglas Home as "a cretin" on *TW3* as the nadir. In fact, the remark was made by Bernard Levin on *Not So Much A Programme, More A Way of Life*.

If Sir Robin casts aside his own autobiography for a moment and opens mine at page 107, he will find an accurate description of the event.

"Levin dropped the word 'cretin' into his assessment of Douglas Home. It became a famous red herring. Patrick Campbell first picked up the word and beloured Levin with it. Ian Macleod took him up on the more serious side of his argument. Campbell persisted in making Levin look foolish and David Frost drew from him first a modification, then a withdrawal and then an apology.

"Frost controlled the incident impeccably and it was irritating to find an habitually responsible critic like Peter Black accepting a commission to condemn in print an incident which he admitted not having seen and of which, plainly, he had heard an inaccurate report."

It sounds as if Robin suffered the same disadvantage.

Actually, in retrospect, that part of the show more nearly resembled a properly ordered edition of *Question Time* than what passed for satire.

The better Frost jibe on *TW3* attended the election battle between Sir Alec and Harold Wilson, which elicited Frost's description of the democratic process as "Dull Alec versus Smart Alec".

ERNEST MEHEW writes to tell me that I am not alone in celebrating the centenary of Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Wrong Box*.

He has done so by editing a new edition of the novel for the Nonesuch Press. It is a limited edition selling for as little as £36.

Prompted by my Calvin Coolidge story, he reminds me of another Washington tale quoted in Chips Channon's diary for 1943. Mrs Woodrow Wilson delighted the town when she declared: "When Woodrow proposed to me I was so surprised I nearly fell out of bed."

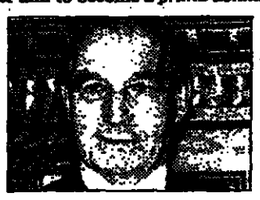
FRANCES EDMONDS

If I were...

If I were the Rt Hon Bernard Weatherill, Conservative MP for Croydon North East and Speaker of the House of Commons, I would be relaxing in my library, quietly contemplating the portraits of some of my 153 predecessors. How, I would muse to myself, would *they* have dealt with the intrusion of the television cameras into our august and elevated chamber? How, I would wonder, would *they* have discriminated between the disgruntled backbencher with a genuine point of order and the aspiring media "personality" who merely wants his mug on telly?

Idly picking at my light, vegetarian lunch, I would decide that I at least shall remain completely unaffected by the media spotlight. Ever my own man and a servant of the House rather than that of the executive, I would continue to be scrupulously fair and impartial in my dealings with all reasonable members. I would double my resolve to ignore the pressure on me by Government managers to shelter the Prime Minister more effectively at Question Time. Indeed, I would add, such requests seem akin to an Ian Botham request for protection against possible assault by fellow airline passengers.

I would ignore the unflattering comparisons often drawn between me and my immediate predecessor, George Thomas, now Lord Tonypandy. Unlike him, I would never aim to become a *prima donna*. Indeed, I



. . . Bernard Weatherill

would shudder at the thought of the dear chap allowing himself to be pawed by Teresa Gorman MP on *Wogan* last week. Indeed I would resolve never to call any MP who vainly hoped to catch my eye by dressing in lurid fuchsia frocks.

To all MPs caught chasing around the chamber, filling up empty seats behind perorating colleagues, I would give 100 lines: "In future I shall not doughnut." At the same time, however, I would look benignly on more traditional parliamentary tactics designed to put an opponent off. For instance, I rather enjoy the seamless commentary of Labour's Dennis Skinner operating in a fine basso-profundo counterpoint to everything Dr David Owen or anyone else tries to say.

Finally, I would try hard to improve my memory for members' names and titles. Whenever my mind went blank, I would wish I enjoyed the easy and endearing charm of Madam Deputy Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, who simply leans over to the Whips enquiring, "Tell me, love, who's that one over there?" Suddenly my attention would be caught by television footage of some vaguely familiar MP. Surely, I would think to myself, such an avid internationalist, such a pro-European Community fanatic, such a sensitive and aristocratic-looking intellectual could not be a rising star in today's Conservative Party? Good grief, could it possibly be Sir Anthony Meyer?

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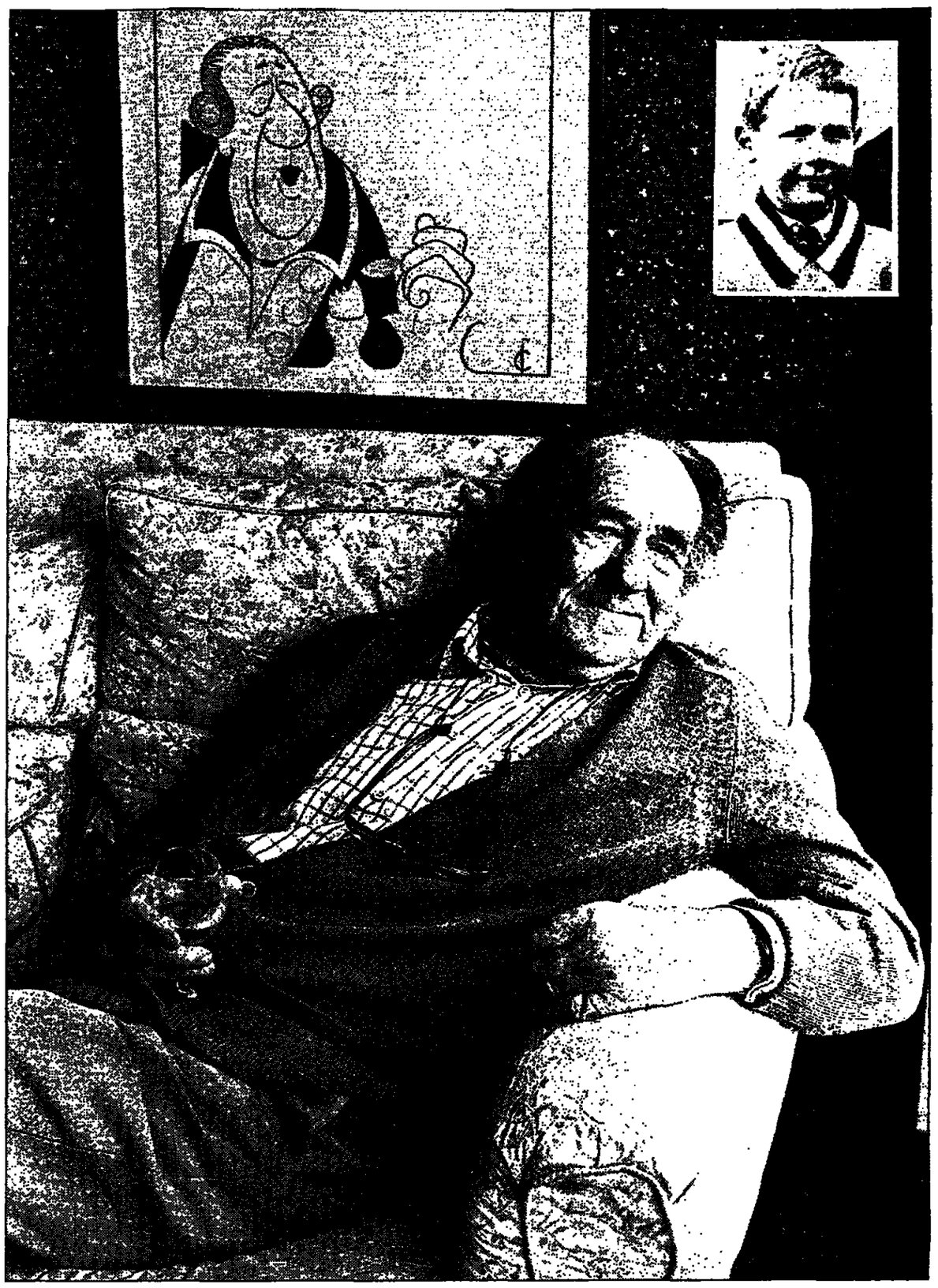
Put the wrong parts together and you may not be entirely happy with the results.

هكذا من الاصل

A CHILDHOOD: SIR MICHAEL HORDERN

'I'm glad I didn't go to drama school. I'd have become long-haired and tiresome'



Sir Michael Hordern and, inset, at eight. When he was 12, he starred in two school plays and discovered the joy of "dressing up and showing off"

by Ray Connolly

Sir Michael Hordern was a late developer when it came to his professional life. He never went to the theatre as a child and it was only after several years with amateur dramatics that he gave up his job in business, took the chance and became a full-time actor. He was 25 then.

Was that perhaps the moment at which he grew up? After the slightest of pauses, he disagrees. No, it was later than that, two years later when, at the outbreak of the Second World War, he volunteered for the Royal Navy.

"I was a DEMS (Defensively Equipped Merchant Ship) gunner on a ship carrying 10,000 tons of munitions and the second night out the convoy in which we were sailing was attacked by U-boats.

"We were going with the guns all night and when the sun came up the sea was completely empty. Four of the other ships around us had gone down and the others had scattered. My second night out and almost my last. I was frightened that night. That was when I grew up."

Strictly speaking, at 28 he was well past childhood but when a man does not find or, to be more precise, does not surrender to his true vocation until he is in his mid-twenties, and when that vocation is then interrupted for five years by a world war, a little latitude is surely acceptable.

What it meant, though, was that Michael Hordern (like many of his generation) did not get to grips with carving out his career until he was in his mid-thirties: a late starter indeed, and probably all the better because of it.

"I'm eternally grateful that I never went to drama school. I think if I'd gone there I'd have realized I couldn't do it. It suits some people, but it wouldn't have suited me. I would have become long-haired and tiresome. And I wouldn't have been alone."

He was born in Berkhamsted in Hertfordshire in 1911, the youngest of three sons, to a captain in the Royal Indian Marines. His mother was an Irish Protestant from Bray, County Wicklow, and his father's family came from Yorkshire.

As a small boy his passion was fishing. He caught his first tiddler at four and a half in the nearby canal. "I've forgotten so much, but I remember that as clearly as if it were yesterday. It was probably a small roach and I so wanted to take it home to show Mum. But my eldest brother, who was a grown-up child of nine, had been trout fishing with his godfather and seen how they threw the little ones back. So he made me throw this one back."

Fishing remains his hobby to the exclusion of all else. Once broken down on his wartime merchant ship, on the Equator in the Indian Ocean, he landed a shark with a hook fashioned in the galley stove and a piece of steak as bait. They let him keep that one. Even today he and his elder brother, now 83, still "stagger out" occasionally for days by the river.

The Horderns were a comfortable middle-class family. He was never near to his father who had been out of his life in India from when he was born, but he was close to his mother. His elder brothers called him Streaks because he cried a lot. "I was a baby," he chuckles. "They were never tears of tragedy. It was probably that I'm rather shallow."

At five, and still wearing a much-despised smock instead of a uniform like the other boys, he was packed off to join his brothers at Windlesham House Preparatory School just outside Brighton when his mother left for India to join her husband. He was not, he thinks, lonely, perhaps because along with him went his nanny who helped establish a kind of kindergarten for the "holiday boys" whose parents were abroad during the holidays.

"I was too young to understand much of what was happening in the war, but I do remember standing in chapel listening to the endless lists of boys who had been killed," he says. "I suppose if I had been a few years older I would have been very frightened."

In his final year at Windlesham, when he was 12, he wrote and starred in two plays, one called *The Man with the Speckled Face* and another about the Romans in Britain which had Julius Caesar rubbing shoulders with a brontosaurus. He was to enjoy "dressing up and showing off" for the rest of his life.

His immediately elder brother, Peter, was an outstanding games player who eventually played rugby for England ("he was the success of the family. He knew what balls did") but Michael Hordern, to the disappointment of house and school, showed no similar abilities. At his public school, Brighton College, when he was bored silly by cricket (he still hates it) they sent him off to the butts on the South Downs to do shooting instead. He was no good at that either, and became a butt marker, the chap who signals and fills in the bullet holes.

Photograph by **Ros Drinkwater**

When he was nine, with the war finished and his father retired from the Navy, his parents returned from India and the family eventually settled into a large old manor house on Dartmoor ("it cost £800") along with a new baby stepsister.

"The wife of an Indian Army officer they knew had died giving birth to triplets. One of the babies had also died and my parents decided to adopt the two survivors, one of whom was mentally handicapped and didn't survive the journey home. It was an extraordinarily brave and generous thing for them to do."

School progressed. At Christmas there would be a Gilbert and Sullivan opera ("looking back I think we did them rather well . . . that was when I really first felt the 'smell of the greasepaint', but it never occurred to me to make a career of it. I didn't know anyone who had gone into the theatre") and in the holidays riding on Dartmoor. There was no theatre.

It was a cosily sheltered life in which he took the class divide totally for granted. It never occurred to him that there might be any other way. Even the theatre was still a very middle-class job.

The Horderns were social on a minor scale. Never well-off enough to be great entertainers, they would have friends down to Devon to stay with them. There were always girl friends, love letters and dancing. He was, he says, a keen ballroom dancer, enjoying the movement. "I went to a tea dance recently, at the Waldorf Hotel actually, but my knees aren't what they were. I used to love it. Dancing now isn't so good . . . just jog, jog, jog."

His first serious girl friend was Margaret Sayers. He would have been about 15. They would go dancing. "I haven't seen her from that day to this, but I got a letter from her the other day."

For a time it looked as though his future might lie in tea planting in India, a family interest, and his mother even went so far as to start collecting household goods with which to furnish his bungalow. But at some pont he gave up the idea. "I'm very glad I did, too. I often think of myself out on some tea estate looking after hundreds of slaves. Oh dear, oh dear."

By this time he had also given up on the idea of following his two brothers to Oxford. His father's pension was scarcely enough to look after them and although his mother had had some money, she had got through that educating her children. "So when I was of an age to go to Oxford there wasn't any money left to send me there."

There was, in fact, still a chance. Because of his brothers' success, Wadham College was interested in him and a scheme was devised whereby a rather wealthy friend of the family, his school and Wadham would all contribute to his fees and living expenses. "But I funked it. I felt I couldn't take on such a burden. The decision was mine. I know I missed something. Certainly I would have acted there. And there were all sorts of rather good people there then."

Instead, at 18 he became a prep school teacher for a term in Beaconsfield. Then one holiday night while driving back across Dartmoor from a dance, he was aware of a strange temperature — still hot from the dance, he thought, and cold from the moor. The next morning when he tried to climb out of bed his right leg collapsed under him. He had contracted polio and was paralysed down the right side.

He was lucky. After six months on crutches during which he spent a marvellous time enjoying Dartmoor, he was completely cured. But he no longer had fancies of being a teacher. Five years with an educational supply company followed — in its Stevenage furniture factory, its London sales room and as a sales rep in the prep school forests of Kent and Sussex.

But by now acting was taking up more and more of his life. There was a club in Stevenage which did Shakespeare in local country houses, and an amateur repertory club in London which did a different play every week and for which he would tear across the Home Counties in his rep's car in time for curtain up.

Eventually, encouraged by an old friend from school, he took the leap into the dark. He left the educational supply company and its secure future one Saturday and turned up at the Savoy Theatre the following Monday morning as a tea-boy and general bottle-washer. A brave step in the Thirties.

Not long after he met, on virtually his first job as a professional, Grace Mortimer, the actress who later became his wife. She died three years ago. He has one daughter and two grandchildren.

Now 78, Sir Michael Hordern still works constantly, mainly in radio and television, and at Christmas he will be seen in a BBC production of Kingsley Amis's *Ending Up*. Late starters have to make up for lost time somehow.

Continued from page 31

jewellery will revolutionize our knowledge of Assyrian metallurgy," says Georgina Herrmann, an archaeologist at the London Institute of Archaeology. "The workmanship would be difficult to duplicate today."

Curtis considers that the most impressive aspect of the finds is the sheer quantity of gold in the burials, and what it tells us about the wealth of the empire at its height. "It alters our perception of Assyria as a civilization," he says. "The fact that they could afford to put this much gold under the floor demonstrates how rich they must have been."

The magnificence of Yaba and her successors was ornamental rather than effective. The laws of Assyria accorded even less status to women than those of its contemporary neighbours. If the "palace women" of the king's harem or those who looked after them displeased their masters, they were subject to severe punishments, including beating, maiming and even death. It is probably fair to envisage the imperial ladies of Nimrud as birds in gilded cages, for all the weight of bullion on their wrists and necks.

Most of the wealth they displayed was loot. Assyria, handicapped by a lack of natural boundaries and material resources, preyed on its neighbours and tried to obliterate them through genocide and forced migrations.

Eventually, this policy led to over-extension, and when the end came it was sudden. About 120 years after the time of Yaba, and about 300 years after Assyria's emergence as a major power, its long-enfeebled vassals in Babylon and Media took advantage of Assyrian weakness resulting from a civil war between twin brothers in the imperial family, and jointly made a final attack on their oppressors.

The empire crumbled within a decade, and in 612 BC Nimrud was overwhelmed. As a force in the world, Assyria ceased to exist.

Like Layard and Mallowan, the destroyers of Nimrud must have walked just above incalculable wealth without ever knowing it. The exquisite filigrees which Yaba had worn lay unseen for 2,700 years, until they came to light this year as a reminder that an eye for beauty can co-exist with the utmost brutality.

But the superstitious Babylonians might have hesitated before rifling the graves of the dead queens. While Muzahim was pressing on with his excavations in the summer, the stone tablet which he had found in the ante-room of grave number two was being translated.

"Yaba the Queen . . . went the way of her fathers," it declared. "Whoever in future, whether she be a Queen who sits on the throne or one of the palace ladies beloved of the King, who removes me from my grave or places another person with me, or stretches out his hand with evil intent towards my jewellery, or opens the sealing of this grave: up above in the light of the sun may his ghost wander thirsty in the open."

Muzahim Mahmud, whose hand had by then already opened the sealing of Yaba's grave, and stretched out towards her jewellery, remains relatively undismayed by this threat to deprive his spirit of its eternal rest. "It's very lucky I'm not a superstitious person," he told Markeson, with a slightly nervous laugh.

May it be so. Anyone with an eye for beauty must be grateful to him for uncovering such masterpieces. But if they recall the dark legends which so quickly accumulated around those who violated the sealed tomb of the young Tutankhamun 60 years ago, they may be relieved that the curse of the dead queen is not aimed at them.

Books for burning

CRAIG BROWN

Years ago, I came across a copy of a book called *The Wit of Prince Philip*. I bought it at once. A few weeks later I bought *The Crossroads Cookbook*, then *The Bay City Rollers — The Inside Story of Britain's No 1 Pop Group*, and *Search for Rainbows — The Autobiography of Barbara Cartland*. There was no turning back. I had embarked on the hobby of a lifetime: the collecting of dud books. I would now like to share with *Times* readers the gems of my collection:

1 Conversations with Eric Clapton by Steve Turner (1976)

The growing number of books about the world of pop offers prime targets for the dud collector. In fact, some might like to specialize in this genre alone. To my mind, this volume tops all others for its complete lack of interest. Here is an example of the Conversations, which are displayed in question-and-answer format:

I was going to ask you — I sit here and ask you all these questions about your music but do you ever think about your music in a similar sort of way? It just strikes me when you say, "I hadn't thought of that before."

Yeh, but I very often get the wrong end of the stick if I'm just thinking about it without an outside point of view to help. I often only do realize things like that after they're suggested to me.

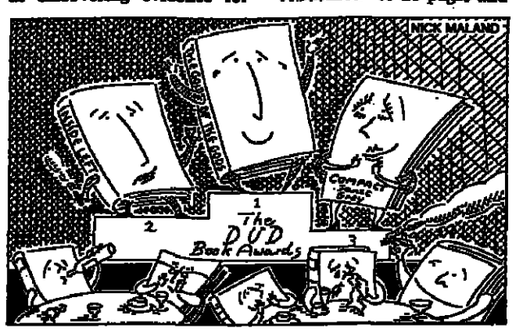
2 The Non-Alignment Movement is a Mighty Anti-Imperialist Revolutionary Force of our Times by Kim Il Sung (1976)

I was attracted to this book by its title, which reads like the type of small, cryptic novella that is said to be making a comeback. Its different chapter titles are closer to fully fledged novels, my personal favourite being:

"Answers to Questions Raised by the Chairman of the Costa Rica-Korea Association of Friendship and Culture who is Chairman of the Costa Rica Socialist Party and Chairman of the Costa Rica Journalists Union" (excerpt).

3 The Gold of the Gods by Erich Von Däniken (1973)

Erich Von Däniken, also author of the dud classic, *Was God an Astronaut?*, is a master at discovering evidence for any hypothesis, however ludicrous. In this book, he discovers startling new evidence that way back, before the dawn of history, the Earth played host to extra-terrestrial visitors who colonized our planet. Von Däniken specializes in grainy photographs of barely visible scratches on old rocks, giving them captions such as "A space station in orbit?" or "Do the circles indicate the number of astronauts buried inside it?". This genre, too, offers great scope for the specialist collector, and is packed with books with titles like *The UFO Experience* and *The Morning of the Magicians*. Favoured subjects are the Loch Ness Monster, the Kennedy Assassination, the Bermuda Triangle, Ley Lines and, as in this case, Stone Age Astronauts.



4 The World's Greatest Books. Volume 1: Madame Bovary, The Mill on the Floss, Cranford, Sense and Sensibility, Alice in Wonderland and Boule de Suif (1949)

"The best-known novels in world literature have been specially adapted for these collections to an easily readable form," declares the blurb. Thus, *Madame Bovary* is "condensed" to 28 pages and *The Mill on the Floss* to 35 pages. Some American universities take this process of "condensation" one step further. At the beginning of the year, students on the World Literature courses are each given a big book called *World Literature*, with 10-page excerpts from all the best books. No other volume is needed to complete the course.

5 Mantissa by John Fowles (1982)

When asked what he would change if he had the chance to live his life again, Peter Sellers replied that he would do everything exactly the same, only this time he wouldn't go to see the film of John Fowles's *The Magus*. Perhaps fortunately, he died before the publication of *Mantissa* in 1982, described by its publishers as "hilarious badinage of the erotic guerrilla war". Alas, Mr Fowles, for all his qualities, has no sense of the erotic or, indeed, of hilarity.

6 Compact — the novel, adapted by Janet Grey (1962)

There could be few less worthwhile books than the novelization of a soap opera which came off the screens nearly 25 years ago. *Compact* preceded *Crossroads* which itself preceded *Neighbours*. This book is fully illustrated with black and white photographs bearing captions such as "What you want is a nice cup of coffee, Mr Viccars!" and "But I don't want to leave you, Miss Morley, I'll tell Mr Ian Dreamboat Harmon what I think about him!". Oddly enough, my own coveted edition of this seminal classic carries an advertisement on its final page for *Rumour and Reflection* by Bernard Berenson.

£2 a week will buy this grandmother the health and happiness she deserves.

For Nang Yison from Thailand hard work on her plot of land was her livelihood until unbearable rheumatic pain stopped her from working.

With no family to support her, she was terrified of facing the future alone.

Now, thanks to a family from the UK who sponsor her, Nang can face the future with out fear.

What's more, their help also supports projects which benefit entire communities. So that for less than £2 a week, they give both Nang and other elderly people in need, the basic essentials of clean water, food and medicine.

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EATING OUT

Hairdresser today, Thai restaurant tomorrow. **Jonathan Meades** visits four of London's latest additions

FRANCIS MOSLEY

Fit to be Thai

By the time you reach the end of this column at least 1.8 Thai restaurants will have been opened for the first time, and perhaps 10 times that number conceived (characteristically in the kitchen of one of the several hundred Thai restaurants that opened last week). The growth of these places is extraordinary, exponential; it moves in geometric progression – every time you blink there's another. The oceans are clogged with vessels floundering under the weight of carved dragons and toothy gods on their way to decorate the former premises of hairdressers, minicab operatives and bankrupt estate agents (hurrah). If every sprig of lemon grass used during the past month were joined end to end, the resultant chain would stretch round the Isle of Wight. Did you know that there's a Thai diner in the centre of Cowes? Well, there is. Of course there is. There's one wherever you look. Go out to your garage/down to your basement/up to your loft – you . . . but you know what you're going to find. Go to west London and you'll find a Thai café called the Bedlington. I admire the frankness, though I'd far sooner hear of Thai cafés called Rottweiler or Collie or Alsatian – there's more meat on them for a start, and they are obviously breeds that need to be used up. It seems a pity to turn them into fertilizer when a single haunch could provide several dozen sticks of satch. Enough of this – it has struck me that the Bedlington is probably named after the place in Northumberland, a sensible move since every other Thai restaurant is called Thai something or other, though there isn't – yet – one called Thai Something or Other.

Bahn Thai cleverly puts the word Thai second and thus removes itself from the far distant end of the alphabet. But then Bahn Thai strikes me as being altogether out of the ordinary, which is a risky thing for a Thai restaurant to be. Risky, because the appeal of the species surely lies in the very familiarity of its exoticism, in the predictability of its strangeness. The majority of Thai restaurants – one might say the same of Pekingese, Korean, Indian, and so on – peddle the same repertoire. Initially beguiling, but it palls. The European, specifically French, notion of cooking as something that develops, mutates, reinvents itself, is, I suspect, not one that eastern cooks would cotton on to, at least non-occidentalized eastern cooks. I suspect the same about the notion of "individualized" cooking – it probably seems a pompous fatuity to those schooled in a disciplined and tight tradition.

Of course that tradition is doubtless amended for UK consumption, but the fact remains that they all dish up the same stuff; some do it better, some do it worse. Bahn Thai certainly does it best of this bunch and, beyond that, offers a number of dishes that may be of its own devising or may simply belong to the "hidden" part of the Thai repertoire, the part that is habitually reckoned not to be to western taste. Thus there are offal dishes and trotter dishes and mussel dishes. I am keenly pro-trotter – feet are for eating – and feel I *should* have ordered one; after all, if those who enjoy the things don't order them they'll disappear from menus. Nevertheless, I didn't. The mussels, though, were interesting; they tasted of nothing at all, but had the benefit of a perky chilli/garlic sauce. The more familiar things are, as I say, superior to the mean. Although the fish cakes look like leather pebbles, they taste good – a bit overdone perhaps, but spicy and fishy (it's astonishing how often Thai fish cakes taste of anything but fish). Satch (satay?) is served in rather larger portions than usual, and is given a sauce in which – again unusual – coconut predominates. There are nice rubbery noodles, a less nice musty duck curry, a commendable version of the pork-in-batter canapés, which seem displaced without a flunkey to hand them round. The star of the dinner was undoubtedly a "green" curry. Bahn Thai's is the finest rendering of this dish I've eaten. It is not a question, as is usual, of disparate furnace-flavours vying for primacy; here is a dish that is *integrated*. OK, so it tastes of towels – but very delicious towels, that have dried delicious skins.

Bahn Thai is done out in a D.I.Thai style with a fair bit of greenery, some statuary and a few rather incongruous carriage lamps. The architectural imperative appears to have been to crowd in as many tables as possible. The place is on two floors, and is gloomy rather than "atmospherically dim". For some reason it offers a selection of wines that would put many European restaurants to shame. It is perhaps churlish to question the point of such vinous enterprise but, really, there is no reason to drink wine with Thai food. Plate and bottle are incompatible; even *gewurztraminer*, which is habitually cited as being the "ideal complement" to this sort of cooking, is overpowered by it. I suspect that the clichéd link between this wine and hot food has its origins in a marketing ploy. Some bright and desperate colleague working on the Alsace account thought to himself "spicy wine . . . well, shove it with spicy nosh". The quantity and excellence of its wine is not Bahn Thai's only oddity. It is a charmless place. The charmlessness extends down, from the ownership which exhorts customers to tip so that the waiters will get paid, to the waiters themselves who carry airs of profound resignation – hardly surprising, I guess. £42.

BAHN THAI
★★★★★
21a Frith Street, London W1 (01-437 8504).
Lunch and dinner every day. £42. Major cards.

THAI PAVILION
★★★
42 Rupert Street, London W1 (01-287 6333).
Lunch Sun to Fri, dinner every day. £34. Major cards.

CHAOPRAYA
★★★
22 St Christopher's Place, London W1 (01-486 0777).
Lunch Mon to Fri, dinner Mon to Sat. £42. Major cards.

THAI PEPPER
★★
115 Finchley Road, London NW3 (01-722 0026/8470).
Lunch and dinner Tues to Sun. £46.

It is not charmlessness that characterizes the recently opened Thai Pavilion, but confusion. The service is gormless and infuriatingly slow. Since, by one of the waiter's admissions, even the satch is heated in microwave ovens, things *should* get done at more of a lick. It's quite a handsome joint, with a sort of rockery composed of shells and picturesquely basic metal chairs which were cold enough to cause saucy-postcard mirth among the incredibly loud adult booksellers at the next table. The cooking here ranges from the delicate to the thumpingly crude. Sometimes the two come in the same dish. Chicken, for instance, is steamed in pandam leaves, which are palm-like and not to be eaten. They impart a singular flavour, a jungle flavour. You are then invited to quash this flavour by dipping the bits of fowl into a sauce that tastes like the malt extract of my childhood called Virol. A sort of tempura dish is unmitigatedly crude – veg are inexpertly fried in chip-shop batter. The satch from the microwave was poor. Fish cakes were acceptable, a green curry was all right, but not a patch on Bahn Thai's. The prawn soup is totally commendable – subtle, perfumed, and possessed of an apparently endless succession of flavours. £34.

Chaopraya is a cavernous basement furnished with chairs in the Bangkok-Tyrolean mode, bits of what look like Viking helmets, the usual prints of flying horses, the usual load of bamboo. The manager paces restlessly, one waitress wears a hobble skirt that gives her the look of an oriental Barbie. The unusual dish here is a salad of Chinese sausage –. this sausage has some affinity with those at Poons, but is sweeter. The dish is very good indeed, the various veg are ferociously dressed. This is a restaurant for head-banging heat. The hot and sour soup makes you feel you're undergoing trepanation. (I haven't undergone trepanation, but you get what I'm suggesting.) Most of the cooking is reasonably impressive: beef with hot basil and noodles, greaseless spring rolls, and so on. A duck curry was so overcome with pineapple chunks that it might have come from "A Thousand Fun Ways With Canned Fruit". £42.

The *Thai Pepper* enjoys – that may not be the right word – views of the Swiss Cottage pub in north London. There's lots of nervy fretwork inside, too, and tables in booths. The service isn't quite as bemused as that at the Thai Pavilion but it will win no prizes for speed. Nor will the green curry win any prizes. And then there was squid, cooked, I suspect, with garlic salt rather than garlic. Both prawn soup and prawn cakes are all right. £46.

DIRECTORY

Stars – up to a maximum of 10 – are for cooking rather than swags and chandeliers. Prices are for a three-course meal for two. They include an aperitif and modest wine in the case of French places, tea in the case of oriental ones and so on. Prices change: they usually go up. Dishes also may have changed – they are given only as an indication of the establishment's repertoire. I accept no responsibility for disappointments and claim no credit for happy surprises. Always phone first. J.M.

FRENCH

One Ninety Queensgate
190 Queensgate, London SW7 (01-581 5666)
★★★★★★★
Self-consciously earthy cooking, indebted to the currently modish *cuisine du terroir* and generally very good. Chef Antony Worrall-Thompson serves pulses with just about everything: lentils with *foie gras*, lentils with lamb, soissons beans with mullet and a meat reduction and fried *foie gras* (much better than it sounds). Fine wines, happy service, animated punters who are enjoying themselves. Terrific wine list includes 20 pudding wines and many little-known French regional bottles. £85.

Carapace
118 Heath Street, London NW3 (01-435 8000)
★★★
Set menu place of a standard far superior to the majority of its kind. The service is less than smooth and the premises too small for the number of covers that are squeezed in, but some of the cooking is good – notably beef ribs, puddings such as pear tart and *clafoutis*, and an unlikely sounding sorbet of lemon and parsley. Everything comes in gargantuan portions – it's a place for a blow out. £50.

La Bastide
50 Greek Street, London W1 (01-734 3300)
★★★★★★★
Nicolas Blacklock is probably the greatest ally that French provincial cooking has in London. His pretty, rather formal restaurant offers a monthly changing regional menu which frequently includes rare dishes – a *potée* from Champagne, for instance, containing heart; *cassoulet*; pork and prune dishes from the Loire. There are also two non-changing menus, one of dishes like duck confit and *boudin noir*, the other of more refined dishes such as a marvellous *coubliac*-like confection of sole and oysters in buttery pastry. Impressive French regional wines and selection of *eaux de vie*, and Armagnacs. £45.

Chez Gerard
8 Charlotte Street, London W1 (01-636 4975)
★★★★★
Very French steak house. The meat, particularly the ribs and the Châteaubriand, is splendid and the *pommes alumettes* are among the best in town. Dishes of the day include *echt* Provençal offerings such as *aioli* with salt cod. The wines are indifferent and the service is harried. Cheese is better than the sweets. £48.

Tante Claire
68 Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 (01-352 6045)
★★★★★★★★
One of the finest French kitchens in London but one of the least consistent. Some of Pierre Koffman's cooking is sensational: salt cod brandade with fried bread, warm oysters with marinaded salmon, *foie gras* salad, a massive ravioli filled with squid, cold mullet fillets with salad, salmon trout with a herb crust. But, equally, his pig trotter stuffed with sweetbreads and morels may be insipid, a piece of boiled beef flavourless. Art-deco-ish décor with smooth and slightly pompous service and serious prices. £110.

Zazou
74 Charlotte Street, London W1 (01-436 5133)
★★★★★★
Southern French fish restaurant in a smart basement with some sort of cocktail bar on the ground floor. Many of the dishes are slightly led – unusual this – successfully orientalized: oysters with curry sauce, salmon with soy and ginger. Grilled fish is simply served with extra virgin olive oil. The cooking is unfailingly impressive and so are the cheeses which are, oddly, all British. £74.

Le Mesurier
113 Old Street, London EC1 (01-251 6117)
★★★★★
Small, neat Frenchish establishment in an area largely bereft of places to eat. The cooking is accomplished: monkfish with *pestis* sauce, goose liver with brioche and candied oranges, veal with grain mustard sauce, fennel purée with mussels. Everything is generously served and the excellent cheeses are left for punters to help themselves. £80.

Jacques
130 Blackstock Road, London N4 (01-359 3410)
★★★★★★
Looks like a junk shop, but is in fact a serious, very French restaurant whose cooking is simple, sophisticated and painstaking. The eponymous host, who is famous for being himself, has accumulated an impressive cellar which mirrors in its eclecticism the decoration of the dining room. Anything can happen here. £70.

The Grafton
45 Old Town, London SW4 (01-627 8231)
★★★★★★
Lovingly restored late 17th-century house converted into a rather preposterously formal restaurant. However, it isn't pompous and much of the cooking is to be reckoned with. The sweet soufflés are probably the best in town. And there's not much wrong with rabbit with herb sauce and raviolis of langoustine, nor with steak sandwiching *foie gras*. Vegetables are less well prepared; the wine list is too Francophile. £60.

La Rive Gauche
61 The Cut, London SE1 01-928 8645)
★★★
Gloomy and rather anonymously done out place in the hinterland of Waterloo. Some dishes are bistro-like, some are more "modern". Fish and meat tends to be cooked with rather more care than are vegetables. Good sweets, cheeses straight from the fridge. £64.

RESTAURANT AND CATERING GUIDE

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Finest Peking Cuisine in the area
Dinner and Dance
£22 per head
20th to 23rd DECEMBER and NEW YEAR'S EVE
1. Smoked Turkey, Phoenix Roll, Spicy Prawn, Crispy Deep-fried Oyster, Crispy Seaweed
2. Crispy Duck
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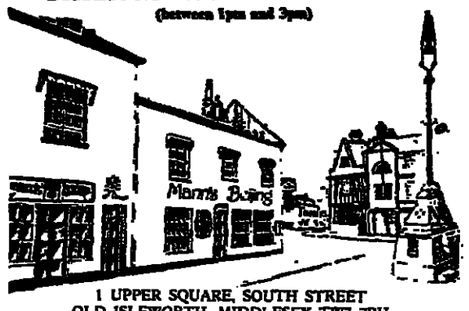
BUFFETS NOW AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS (between 1pm and 3pm)

1 UPPER SQUARE, SOUTH STREET
OLD ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX TW7 7BH
Tel: 560 2844/1180 or 0836 689066

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CAMPUS

Alter the course of your life

At universities and polytechnics up and down the country, the yearly milk round is well under way. From the increasingly aggressive tactics adopted by graduate recruiters it would seem that the student has become an endangered species.

Knowing students to be inherently lazy animals, one might expect them to be encouraged. But it seems to have had the opposite effect. The knowledge that they have become highly marketable commodities has encouraged competition among students for the best jobs. The £25,000 starting salaries offered by certain management consultants and merchant banks are the glittering rewards available to the ambitious.

What must a student do to overcome the competition? Academic achievement is largely irrelevant, since most jobs are filled months before finals. Employers are more interested in other achievements and pursuits. The majority of students quite consciously cultivate their CVs with this in mind. In the new climate of competition for the higher salaries, CV points are at a premium.

CV points are little more than decoration

There seem to be two prevailing attitudes towards CV points, reflecting two very different approaches to student life. The minority of students appear to consider their university years as a conveyor belt to a job. They spend them accordingly, jostling their way up one or more of the university societies, hoping to become an officer or president. The Union Debating Society and Oxford University Conservative Association have proved valuable sources of CV points: Michael Foot and Sir Robin Day were presidents of the Union; Margaret Thatcher and Edward Heath were presidents of OUCA. Both societies are currently riddled with "hacks" (individuals hungry for CV points and power). These charmless characters fight among themselves for the few top positions.

Their self-aggrandizing antics are, however, generally viewed with distaste by their fellow undergraduates. The majority of students are less willing to sacrifice their carefree years at university for the sake of their future careers. But they feel the need for CV points just as keenly.

Repelled by hackery, an increasing number of students resorts to CV embellishment. They invent positions of responsibility and achievements with little compunction, knowing that employers will never bother to check. The CV is viewed cynically as a means to an end, CV points have no intrinsic value. They are little more than decorations to attract the employer's eye and distinguish one application from a mound of others.

Sensing an unexploited gap in the market for bogus CV points, one Oxford CV Society sells token presidencies and officerships. Advertising itself with the slogan "The short-cut to a sparkling CV", the CV Society has "appointed" more than 50 presidents and almost 150 officers. Quality CV points are no longer in short supply in Oxford. The market has been flooded. One piece of unashamed advice runs: "Quite simply, if you get all sanctimonious about keeping to the truth on your CV, it will be binned by all discerning employers, and the only interview you'll be getting is with your bank manager."

The formation of the CV Society will not be welcomed by those employers already anxious about CV embellishment. But the benefits may eventually extend beyond a few cosmetically upgraded CVs. If the CV Society succeeds in its quest to rid one university of the hack by making his efforts redundant, then societies, and perhaps even student life generally, will be valued less as the means to an end, and more as ends in themselves.

Ben Webster

● *The author, from Keble College, Oxford, founded the CV Society.*

THE TIMES COOK

Keep your options open

Frances Bissell suggests some multipurpose dishes, which suit a weekday meal as well as a dinner party

DIANA LEADBETTER

Today's recipes are offered with an eye to the season and can be adapted to fulfil a multitude of needs, from a quick weekday supper for two to a more elaborate dish for weekend entertaining.

Take a simple thing like a chicken breast. It can be grilled or dry fried and served with a salad or some lentils. It will cook even more quickly if *flattened with a rolling pin* or sliced horizontally. Flattened chicken breasts can also be rolled around a stuffing and baked with a little wine and oil or butter. Another way to deal with them is to put them in an unusual marinade and serve them with an interesting sauce, as I have suggested below. Both marinade and sauce can be adapted to the flavours you prefer and the ingredients you have available. For example, if you cannot get fresh walnuts, then use blanched almonds rather than risk spoiling the dish with old walnuts. If you feel that the orange flavours would clash with a wine that you were planning to serve, consider using pomegranate juice. There are some marvellous fruits imported from Spain about now — custard apples, persimmons and pomegranates, all of which I find quite irresistible. Custard apples, as they ripen, change from taut-skinned and hard to feeling somewhat relaxed when you hold them in your hand, and the dull green will be taking on fawn and pale brown undertones. Chill, cut in half and eat the sweet, sharp, custardy flesh with a spoon, discarding the shiny black seeds. Persimmons are more tricky to buy because, when unripe, they resemble Sharon fruit. This Israeli hybrid is edible and sweet when *firm, pale and shiny.* If you have ever wondered what tannin tastes and feels like, bite into an unripe persimmon. But you can buy them at this stage, and let them ripen in the fruit bowl. They will darken, turn translucent and become very soft and fragile. This is when they are ready to eat. Ripe ones make wonderful jam. And so to pomegranates. Those with the reddest skins are the ripest, and will contain ruby red globules full of juice. Cut in half and squeeze gently to extract the juice. This has just the right amount of acidity for a marinade, and it can be added to the sauce with a few pomegranate seeds for decoration. Another version of the sauce to serve with the chicken breasts replaces the walnuts with a little mild blue cheese, such as Gorgonzola or Dolcelatte.

When making the chicken liver pâté or spread, it is worth making a fair amount since it keeps well in the refrigerator. When I make it, I take out a few spoonsful before I blend it to use as a sauce for pasta with some finely chopped sage. If I am serving the spread for a special occasion, then I might make the richer version and serve less of it.

While I have no hesitation in suggesting ways of adapting my own recipes, I am loathe to do that with other people's, particularly when they have been lovingly and meticulously collected. The last two recipes come from a new book, the first in English on the subject, *Majorcan Food and Cookery* by Elizabeth Carter, published by Prospect Books at £8.95. The book is full of excellent recipes and gives us a delightful picture of domestic living in Majorca. The almond ice-cream recipe is definitely one to have on hand for those who cannot manage a helping of Christmas pudding. And you might try the aubergine recipe with grilled chicken breasts.

Quick chicken liver spread
(Makes about 1lb/455g)

- 1lb/455g chicken livers
- ½pt/280ml skimmed milk
- 1 medium onion *or* 2 to 3 shallots
- 2tbsp dry oloroso sherry
- 6 juniper berries, crushed
- 1tsp pink peppercorns (optional)
- 1tbsp fromage frais or double cream
- 2oz/60g polyunsaturated margarine or unsalted butter
- pinch of nutmeg
- salt
- pepper

Wash the chicken livers, discarding any sinews and cutting away any discoloured portions. Put in a bowl and pour on the milk. Leave for about half an hour or so. Peel and finely chop the onion or shallots, and sweat them until soft in a heavy non-stick frying pan. Drain and dry the chicken livers, and fry them with the onions until almost done. Stir in the sherry and juniper berries (and the pink peppercorns if using them). Cook for another minute or two and then allow to cool. When cool, put the *mixture* in a food processor with the fromage frais and margarine (or cream and butter). Process until smooth. Season to taste, and pack into a bowl, jar, soufflé dish, ramekins or other container. Tall, narrow ones are better than wide shallow ones, since there is less exposure to the air. Cover with foil or clean food wrap until required, and then bring back to near room temperature before serving.

Chicken breasts with fennel and walnuts
(Serves 4)

- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts
- 2tbsp walnut oil
- 1 orange
- 1 small fennel bulb
- 2 to 3 cloves garlic
- 4tbsp water or chicken stock
- 2oz/60g fresh wet walnut halves
- 2tbsp fromage frais
- freshly ground white pepper
- salt

Brush the chicken breasts all over with walnut oil. With a *fine grater, grate the zest from* the orange and reserve it. Squeeze the orange. Reserve half the juice and pour the rest over the chicken breasts. Allow to marinate for at least 30 minutes while you prepare the sauce. Trim any discoloured portions from the fennel. Remove any fresh-looking feathery plumes for decoration, and slice and dice the bulb. Peel and roughly chop the garlic. In a non-stick pan, sweat the vegetables over a very low heat until soft. Moisten with the rest of the orange juice, and add the water or chicken stock and the orange zest. Remove as much skin as you can from the walnuts. Fresh wet walnuts are relatively easy to peel, and it does improve this delicate sauce if you can remove the bitter skin. Put the soft vegetables in the blender with the cooking juices, the walnuts and the fromage frais. Blend until smooth, and sieve if you like. Put the sauce in a double boiler or a bowl set over a pan of hot water. Let the sauce heat up gently as you cook the chicken. This is done by putting the breasts in a single layer in a non-stick frying pan, covering with a lid or foil and letting them cook in their own juices for 12 to 15 minutes. Sweating really is the best word to describe this method of cooking, which is done without fat. When the chicken breasts are done, drain the cooking juices into the, by now, hot sauce, and season it to taste. Transfer the chicken breasts to a heated serving dish or individual dishes. Serve the sauce separately or poured over the chicken, or in a pool under the chicken. Decorate with fennel leaves and some finely chopped walnuts, or with a fine powdering of *mild paprika.*

"Alboronia" (aubergine and apple casserole)

- 4 aubergines
- 8floz/225ml olive oil
- 3 fresh garlic plants (or spring onions), roughly chopped
- 1 large apple, peeled and sliced
- 2lb/1kg ripe tomatoes
- ½tbsp mild paprika ("pimenton rijo")
- salt and pepper

Dice the aubergines and sprinkle with plenty of salt. Leave them to drain in a colander, weighted down with a plate, for half to one hour. Rinse well and squeeze dry. Heat the oil and fry the aubergines for a few minutes with the garlic plant (or spring onion) and the apple. Place this in a casserole. Now peel and chop the tomatoes and fry in the remaining oil until puréed. Stir in the paprika and pour this sauce over the apples and aubergines in the casserole. Check the seasoning and simmer, covered, for 20 minutes. Serve hot.

Real Majorcan almond ice-cream resembles a water ice. This recipe comes from Heladeria Ca'n Miquel, number 6 in calle Jaime III, Palma.

"Gelat d'ametlla" (almond ice-cream)

- 9oz/250g blanched almonds, finely ground
- 10oz/300g sugar
- 36floz/1l water
- finely grated zest of one lemon
- 1 small stick cinnamon

Place the ingredients together in a saucepan and put this on a very low heat. Bring it slowly to the boil, stirring frequently. As soon as the mixture boils, remove the pan from the heat and leave to cool. Remove the cinnamon stick and either pour the liquid into a machine for making ice-cream or freeze it in the freezer compartment of the refrigerator, stirring from time to time as it sets.

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COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

Create a stir tomorrow, with the perfect pudding recipe

The Collect for tomorrow, the Sunday before Advent, includes the words: "Stir up we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works may of thee be plenteously rewarded." Tradition has it that cooks would then rush home from morning service, having been reminded to make the Christmas pudding, and it has long been known as Stir-up Sunday.

In previous years my Christmas pudding recipe has been very popular, and for those who did not keep it, here it is again. It really is a good pudding, full of rich flavours, but not dense and heavy. It is high in fibre because I use wholemeal breadcrumbs and natural dried fruit, and because I do not use glacé fruit or any added sugar, it is lower in sugar than many pudding recipes. Dried fruit is, of course, full of concentrated fruit sugar which makes the pudding quite sweet enough. I have found that the pudding cooks and eats well without the addition of fat. If you want to cut down the sugar content even more, then use extra dried fruit in place of the marmalade and extra ground or chopped almonds in place of the macaroons. Use the drier spirits rather than the sweet ones or the liquorous wines. Incidentally, I find that the Pedro Ximenez (or PX, as it is sometimes called) sherry is one of the best wines to serve with the Christmas pudding. A lighter version of this is to be found in muscat wine, not the golden muscats that we are familiar with, but a wine made from the black muscat grape. Made in California since the days of the missions, it has only relatively recently been made commercially. I know of only one that has made its way here, Elysium from Andrew Quady, available from Majestic, is the PX.

The pudding is not time-consuming to make. Once you have got all the ingredients together, weighed and mixed them, they are left overnight. Filling the pudding basin and rigging it *up in the steamer* will take only 20 minutes of your time. Then all you will be required to do is to keep an eye on it occasionally to make sure that the water is topped up and simmering.

When I have come to reheat the pudding in previous years, I have scooped it out of the original basin and packed it into very small individual basins. These take only 20 to 30 minutes resteaming and are very nice to serve for a dinner party at Christmas time.

Leftover Christmas pudding, I crumble and mix with real vanilla ice-cream and refreeze, to serve with a splash of PX or a spoonful of fruit sauce made from poaching and sieving dried apricots.

Christmas pudding

- 8oz/230g fresh wholemeal breadcrumbs
- 8oz/230g roughly chopped moscatel raisins
- 8oz/230g roughly chopped sultanas
- 8oz/230g roughly chopped dried apricots
- 4oz/110g chopped stoned prunes
- 2oz/60g crumbled almond macaroons, or Italian Amaretti
- 2oz/60g chopped almonds
- 1oz/30g ground or flaked almonds
- 1 peeled and grated apple
- 1tbsp ground cinnamon
- 1tsp ground mace
- ½tsp ground cardamom
- ½tsp ground cloves
- ½tsp ground allspice
- 2tbsp orange marmalade or candied orange peel
- juice of 1 small orange
- 4 size 3 eggs
- 1 miniature bottle brandy or orange liqueur
- ¼pt/140ml fortified muscat wine, port, Marsala, oloroso or Pedro Ximenez sherry

Put all the dry ingredients in a large bowl, and mix thoroughly, either with a large wooden spoon or your hands. Put the marmalade, orange juice, eggs, brandy and wine in another large bowl or in a blender or food processor, and beat until well blended and frothy. Pour the liquid over the dry ingredients. Mix again until the mixture is moist. Cover, and let it stand for a couple of hours at least, and, if possible, overnight, to let the spice flavours develop. Oil or butter the pudding basin or basins (the mixture fills a 3pt/1.75l basin), and spoon in the mixture. As the pudding contains no raw flour, it is not going to expand very much during cooking, and you can fill the mixture to within ½in/1.25cm of the rim. Take a large square of greaseproof paper, oil or butter it, pleat it and tie it over the top of the pudding basin with string.

Place the basin in a saucepan, on a heatproof upturned saucer or dish, standing it on a long triple strip of foil to help you lift the hot basin out of the saucepan once cooked. Pour in boiling water to reach halfway up the pudding basin, cover the saucepan, and bring it back to the boil. Lower the heat, keep water at a steady simmer, and steam the pudding for five to six hours. Make sure the water is kept topped up and boiling. When *the pudding is cooked,* allow it to go completely cold before wrapping it in fresh greaseproof paper and foil.

When you want to serve it, *steam for a further two hours.*

● A 10lb turkey will take 18 hours at room temperature to defrost, not eight as stated last week.

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FOOD

As free as a bird?

What is a free-range chicken? Not much better off for living space than a battery hen sometimes.

Though ethically-concerned customers, and those who are convinced that free-range products taste better, willingly pay premium prices for free-range chickens and eggs, free-range birds are often intensively farmed. They, too, can spend most of their lives indoors, on floor space no bigger than a battery cage, if their feed is not scattered outside to make them walk for it.

In surveys of the track record for salmonella infestation among chickens, free-range flocks and their eggs have, at times, been rather worse than their battery-accommodated sisters.

EC standards permit chicken farmers to crowd free-range hens far more densely on their acres than the Farm Animal Welfare Council likes, or the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food recommends.

Because farms are allowed to move their hen houses and to allow the birds on to only one fenced part of the acreage at a time, the effective density on the land actually in use at any moment can be as high as 4,000 birds per acre. The Farm Animal Welfare Council would like a limit of no more than 150 birds to an acre.

Free-range birds were as likely as any others to have been fed on the waste products and chicken carcases whose use caused such offence when it was revealed at the height of the salmonella scandal. They also ate their daily rations of soya feed, which is thought to have been responsible for much of the spread of salmonella.

Now Tesco has introduced free-range corn-fed chickens from France. These birds really do have free range, with unrestricted access to one million acres of pine forests in the Landes, south of Bordeaux.

Of course they do not in fact wander far from their mobile hen houses and feeding stations, and despite the fact that they are unfenced, the farmers reckon to lose only four per cent of their flocks to wandering and predators.

The living conditions of free-range chickens are not always what they're cracked up to be

The birds are supplied with locally grown maize to eat. It is estimated that this constitutes four-fifths of their diet. The other fifth is whatever they grub up from the forest floor.

Because of the corn-based diet, their skin and fat take on a rich yellow hue, not unlike the effect one might obtain with liberal applications of the notorious azo-dye, Sunshine Yellow. It is not only artificial additives, of course, that can be effective colourants.

Because of the distinctive colouring, it would be silly to *pretend that it* was a blind tasting in which I tried Tesco's birds against the standard British free-range alternative. Nor was it an entirely conclusive test.

The opposition came, as geographical convenience would have it, from Marks and Spencer, which just happened to be the closest supermarket available at the time. It was, I think, markedly superior to much of the free-range chicken available on the market, with a firm, succulent texture and clean, attractive flavour.

Tesco's French birds, on the other hand, were not only a different colour; they also had a different shape. Because of their breed (a rather henpecked looking bare-necked variety called *cou nu,* which is said to be native to the forest and raised in the wild) and their active lives in the forest, the French birds have much longer and more muscular legs than their more sedentary British cousins.

The meat is not only more colourful, but also drier and firmer in texture, and rather fuller and earthier in flavour.

Tesco, which gets its *supplies from a well-established* co-operative of 600 landais farmers, anticipates some consumer resistance to the unfamiliar yellow hue of corn-fed chicken meat. (Why, when in the Midlands there has been a craze for chips dyed yellow with tartrazine?) But Marks and Spencer has been successfully selling corn-fed chicken, which come from France but are not free-range, for several years, and I would think many who are willing to pay the extra once to give the French birds a try will return for more.

What is more, Tesco will be offering fresh free-range turkey from the same source in the Landes at Christmas.

I have not tasted those yet, but this will be the first time a major supermarket has been able to offer free-range turkeys, fresh and not frozen.

Robin Young

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CALIFORNIA WINES

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In an international judging in Paris, California wines won their first top medals.

Rather fitting, wasn't it? That the winemakers who didn't come looking for gold should end up winning it.

Gif

S

Maiden aunt

Secretary PA

Wine buffs

For those who live alone

RESIST
TEMPT
THE DOW'S

DOW'S PORT 1982

CELEBR
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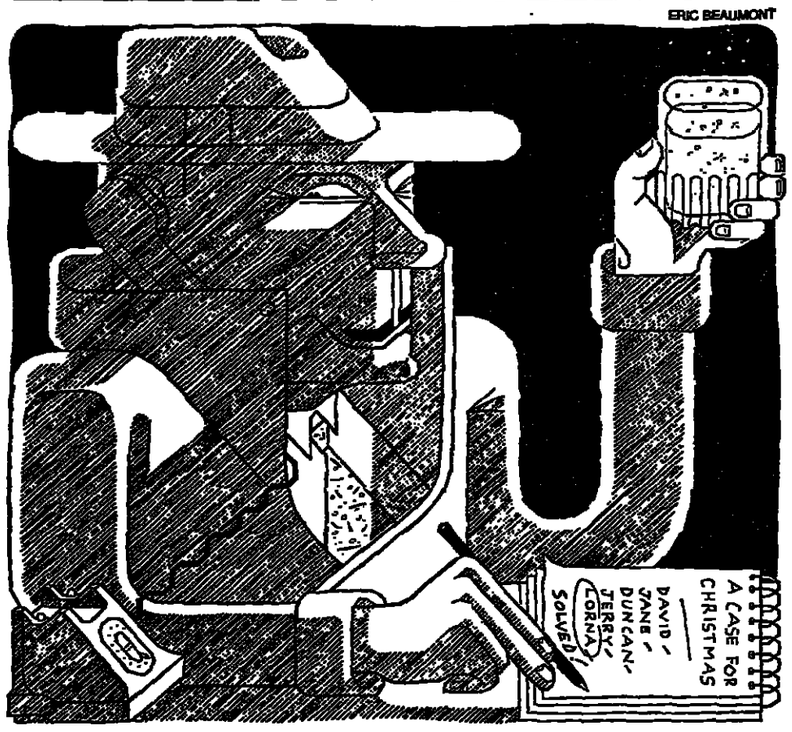
Help the

DRINK

Gifts with a sparkle

There's a good case for giving wine at Christmas and Jane MacQuitty has a host of seasonal suggestions



Shopping for Christmas presents is always a nightmare. Last year we avoided the objectionable *business* by celebrating Christmas in Australia and sending everyone Loch Fyne oysters and bottles of a delicious Chablis. This year we are back in the pondering, purchasing and packing rut. But *never mind* – the wine trade has come up with one of the most toothsome and varied selections of Christmas cases this winter, and, if your orders are on the merchants' desks by Friday, December 1, your Christmas nightmare need not begin. All you need to do is choose from the list below, make a few phone calls and sign a few cheques.

Maiden aunt

Avoid the lavender bath salts and opt for one of Tanners's inexpensive *gastronomic* delights. A jar of Burgundian snails washed down with a bottle of Tanners's excellent own-label white burgundy (£13.50) should cheer up jaded taste-buds, as would a bottle of Tanners's pink champagne and Belgian chocolates (£21). Sweet-tooths might like to try Avery's Dessert Case (£27), containing a bottle of Sauterne, a fine, late-bottled vintage port and a Muscat de Rivesaltes.

Secretary/PA

Six quarter bottles of Moët et Chandon's fruity, non-vintage bubbly in a pretty presentation pack from Wizard Wine Warehouses (£29.95) should keep inter-office relations sweet. Or try Tanners's Champagne Selection, a trio of different champagnes in a smart, red gift-box (£29.50). Scrooges should consider Hugh Johnson's *1990 Pocket Wine Book* (Mitchell Beazley, £5.95), which has a food and wine section that will prove indispensable for those who have to plan company dinners and conferences (on special offer from Tanners at £4.75).

Wine buffs

If you are looking for a present for someone who already has a cellar filled with the finest and rarest wines, consider splashing out on the automatic Lever Model Screwpull, complete with foil cutter, for £69 by post from Tanners. But if you call in personally to a Majestic Wine Warehouses branch you can pick one up for just £59.99.

For those who live alone

Families and couples rarely have problems in polishing off a bottle, but those who live alone often do, and hate to waste the remainder. La Vigneronne has a glorious Half Bottle Indulgence Case (£66) that contains 12 half bottles of some unusual wines, such as the Manzanilla La Guita sherry, the '85 Joseph Phelps Cabernet Sauvignon from California, and an '82 Barsac from Château Nairac. Much less prestigious, but offering twice as much for your money, is Avery's Half Bottle Case (£55), with two half bottles of 12 wines.

Nearest and dearest

Wine may not live forever, but your other half is unlikely to complain about a magnum of '83 Château Fombrauge from Berry Bros & Rudd (£18), or a magnum of Justerini & Brooks's own Sarcey champagne (£27).

Parents

Wine is the one Christmas gift that never gets recycled. Tanners Best Sellers, a case offering three bottles each of four of its most popular wines, including the peppery Château du Grand Moulas, Côtes du Rhone, priced at £41 instead of the usual £45.93, is a safe bet, as is Lay & Wheeler's admirable second label Claret Collection – one, two, or four bottles of each of the following classic clarets: '83 Clos du Marquis, Léoville-Las-Cases's second label, '83 Sarget-de-Gruaud Larose, Gruaud's second wine also from St Julien, and '85 Clos La Gaffelière from St Emilion's Château Gaffelière. Two bottles of each cost £65.25.

This year several wine merchants are offering those handsome, sturdy, wicker bottle baskets which, unlike flimsy wicker hampers, really do have a post-Christmas use. Yorkshire Fine Wines has the best of the bunch, with its six-bottle basket containing a trio each of a distinguished white and red Rhône, the '81 red *Château Neuf du Pape*, Château de Beautastel, and the white '87 vintage (£102). YFW has an eight-bottle basket on offer too, and the Fine Claret Version contains two bottles each of some classy clarets such as the '79 Gruaud Larose and '75 Cissac (£154). Smoked salmon is a traditional Christmas dish, so consider Justerini & Brooks's wine and smoked salmon kit: six bottles of stylish '88 Sauvignon de Haut Poitou, plus a pound of best Scottish smoked salmon (£40).

Friends

If you are on a tight budget but still have lots of friends to give presents to, try the zesty Tanners Sauvignon and fruity Tanners Claret, packaged in a smart gift-box, for £8.50. Port and Stilton packs may be a Christmas cliché, but everyone enjoys them. Lay & Wheeler has a modestly priced version with a bottle of its Vintage Character Port and a 14oz pottery jar of Finest Blue Stilton (£19.75). Les Amis du Vin's superior version offers a bottle of Dow's Late Bottled Vintage Port alongside a 10oz Paxton & Whitfield jar of Stilton (£25).

Party throwers

If nothing but champagne will do this Christmas and New Year, contact Bibendum which has slashed the price of the fresh, lively, non-vintage Laurent Perrier Brut champagne to £12.49 a bottle, easily *under-cutting its* Oddbins (£13.99) and Majestic (£13.59) competition. Taittinger's flowery, non-vintage Brut Reserve, on sale at Bibendum for £13.95, is another Christmas wine price fighter (£15.99 at Oddbins). You do have to order this pair by the single, *unmixed* case to qualify for these prices. Anyone who overdoes it during the festive season might like to receive Presence of Mind's For the Morning After case (£19.35). This Bloody Mary box contains a *half bottle of Smirnoff* vodka, six tins of tomato juice, a bottle each of Tabasco and Worcester sauce plus a bag of pepper-corns and a fresh lemon. Instant relief. Robin Yapp's Party Popper case (£68 instead of £76.50) is also worth considering, as it contains 10 bottles of Vouvray Brut fizz plus a bottle each of Crème de Pêches and Crème de Mûres Sauvages. To make a festive peach fizz or wild blackberry version, just pour one teaspoon of the liqueur into the bottom of a glass and top up with fizz.

Millionaires

If you have the money and you know it will be appreciated, Adnams has limited quarter casks of vintage Hine Cognac on offer for as little as £880. This will buy you the delectable '81 Grand Champagne Cognac – about 288 bottles' worth. Alternatively, you could try the more venerable '64 Hine, at £1,050 a quarter cask, which is likely to be bottled in 1990 – when you will have to pay for bottling and storage charges, plus duty and VAT on top. Well-heeled Santas only need apply.

Ordering details

Tanners, 26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (0743 232007). Last Christmas orders to be received before Dec 9. Delivery is free locally, otherwise £4.50 per order, goods worth £75 plus delivered free.

Averys, 7 Park Street, Bristol (0272 214141). Last orders: Dec 1. Delivery included on Christmas cases listed.

Wizard Wine Warehouse (01-207 4455). Last orders: Dec 19. Delivery within M25 radius only, charged at £4 per order, or free on goods worth £100 plus.

Wine Arts, London House, *London Street, Andover*, Hampshire (0264 58036). Last orders: Dec 9. Delivery negotiable, £1 for the corkscrew.

La Vigneronne, 105 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-589 6113). Last orders: Dec 8. Delivery charges vary, £4.50 on case mentioned.

Lay & Wheeler, 6 Culver Street West, Colchester, Essex (0206 764446). Last orders: Dec 8. Delivery outside van area £4.95 per item, £5.95 if posted.

Yorkshire Fine Wines, Nun Monkton, York (0423 330131). Last orders: Dec 1. Free delivery in van area, otherwise £9 per cellar basket.

Les Amis du Vin, 19 Charlotte Street, London W1 (01-636 4020). Last orders: Dec 5. Delivery included on cases mentioned.

Bibendum, 113 Regents Park Road, London NW1 (01-722 5577). Last orders: Dec 11. Immediate free London delivery, elsewhere negotiable.

Adnams, The Crown, High Street, Southwold, Suffolk (0502 724222). Last orders: Dec 11. Cases quoted include delivery.

Berry Bros & Rudd, 3 St James's Street, London SW1 (01-839 9033). Last orders: Dec 1. Delivery £4.25 per order, goods over £50 delivered free.

Justerini & Brooks, 61 St James's Street, London SW1 (01-493 8721). Last orders: Dec 1. Cases quoted include delivery.

Yapp Brothers, The Old Brewery, Mere, Wiltshire (0747 860423). Last orders: Dec 1. Cases quoted include delivery.

The Wine Society, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire (0438 740222). Last orders: Dec 1. Cases quoted include delivery.

Presence of Mind, Berwick Barns, Terling Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel, Essex (0205 381220). Last orders: Dec 1. Delivery £3.50 per item, free on orders of £75 plus.

OUTINGS

Trees for all seasons

National Tree Week begins today with hundreds of events, from ceremonial plantings to woodcraft demonstrations, taking place throughout the country. It is organized by the Tree Council, a registered charity, which hopes to break last year's record planting of 600,000 trees. Its 1989 theme is "Greening the Cities", and it hopes this will be taken up by local authorities, companies, conservation groups and children – 30,000 copies of a Junior Tree Education Pack, produced by this year's sponsor, Akzo, have been sent to primary schools.

More than two years ago, 15 million trees in south-east England were destroyed by a storm, but other forces have been destroying our trees for years: Dutch elm disease has already killed 21 million, hundreds of thousands more have fallen to urban development, modern agricultural techniques and other diseases. Those behind National Tree Week hope to halt the decline and encourage people to care for and establish trees all over the country.

The Woodland Trust, which promotes conservation, preservation and regeneration of Britain's woods, is organizing 12 events from Fife to Cornwall in the next nine days.

LUNE AQUEDUCT OPEN WEEKEND: First open weekend on one of England's most scenic waterways – the Lancaster Canal. The aqueduct will be drained of water in preparation for inspection and repair. Also canal displays, demonstrations of the skills needed to maintain the structure, working demonstrations of the dredging fleet, and the traditional Leeds and Liverpool Canal short boat with Father Christmas aboard. Gifts, souvenirs, and hot refreshments. Regular water bus service from Aldcliffe Road to the site.
Lune Aqueduct, Lancaster Canal, Lancaster (0524 32712). Today, tomorrow 10am-3pm.

AVOCET CRUISES: Bird-watching boat trip on the River Exe with RSPB experts on board to provide commentary and help identify the wintering birds. Trips last between three and four hours. Dress warmly. Exmouth Dock, Exeter, Devon. Today from 10am, tomorrow from 11am. Tickets, must be booked, from the RSPB Office, Exeter (0392 432691). Adult £5.80, child £3.

BUTTERFLY ACTION DAY: Conservation work will be taking place at a wide variety of locations tomorrow, organized by branches of the British Butterfly Conservation Society. Butterfly numbers have been declining for many years – mainly because of the loss of habitat as a result of building, modern farming techniques, and other reasons. Conservation work carried out now will do much to help the butterfly population next year. Details of your nearest action point (0482 668784).

COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE CRAFT SHOW AND KENSINGTON BOOK FAIR: Forty top craftsmen and craftswomen display, demonstrate, and sell arts, crafts, and designs. At the Book Fair, thousands of second hand, rare, and antiquarian books for sale. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8. Craft show, today, tomorrow 11am-5pm. Adult £1.50, child 50p. Book fair, tomorrow 11am-5pm. Adult 50p, child free.

WORLD HERITAGE AT THE HORNIMAN: An opportunity to see *Last Of The Cuiva*, a fine film made in Colombia in 1971 as part of the disappearing world series, produced by Brian Moser.
Horniman Museum, London Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 (01-699 2339). Today 3.30pm. Free.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT: Julie Dyer and Mark Eden – a percussion and classical guitar duo – give a concert for children with plenty of audience participation. Afterwards an opportunity to meet the players and for children to try out the instruments. Refreshments.
Christ Church College, Canterbury, Kent. Today 3pm. Adult £1.25, child 85p.

CRAFTS FOR CHRISTMAS: Popular north Cornish annual selling exhibition at which 35 local craftsmen and craftswomen demonstrate and sell their wares. Light refreshments and lunches. No admission charge but donations to the RNLI welcome.
Wadebridge Town Hall, Wadebridge, Cornwall. Today 9.30am-5.30pm.

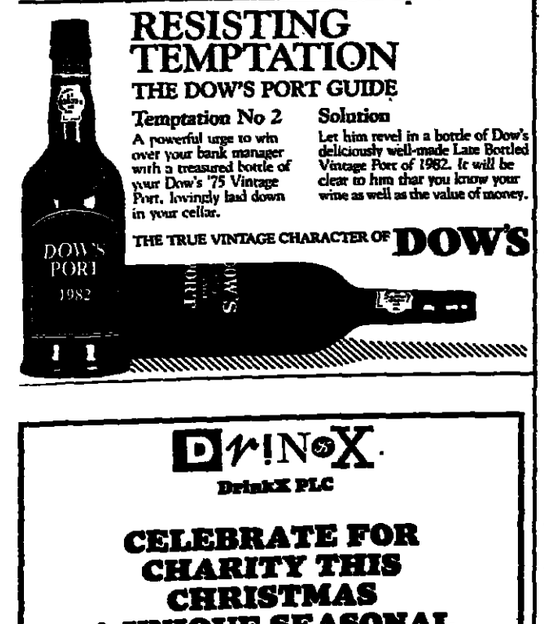
SOUTH-WEST KIT AND SPORTS CAR SHOW: More than 100 stands selling cars, kits, parts, accessories, spares, and more than 200 vehicles on display. An auction of 50 lots today includes the sale of the Ryan Streamline, an amphibious car which holds the world record for endurance and distance covered by any amphibious vehicle.
The Bristol Exhibition Centre, Canons Road, City Centre, Bristol. Today, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £3.50, child £2.

KABUKI – A WESTERN EXPERIENCE: Jessica Higgs – professional actress, musician, composer, and former musical director for Kenneth Branagh's *Romeo & Juliet* – gives her own view of Japanese Kabuki Theatre, a dazzling, spectacular, 300-year-old theatrical art.
Neal Street East, 5 Neal Street, Covent Garden, London WC2. Tomorrow 2.30pm.

COMPUTER SHOPPER SHOW: Manufacturers and dealers sell and demonstrate the latest computers and related soft and hardware – from the simplest to the most complex.
The Great Hall, Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, London N22 (01-365 2121). Today 10am-6pm, tomorrow 10am-4pm. Adult £4, child under-16 £3.

Judy Froshaug

- **Storm Damage Replanting:** Large-scale replanting with broad-leaved trees to help restore deciduous woodland. Take spade and picnic lunch.
Northfield Wood, Onehouse, near Stowmarket, Suffolk. Tomorrow 10am-2.30pm.
- **Peterborough Wildlife Celebrations:** Open days at Grimeshaw Community Wood with demonstrations of coppice crafts, charcoal burning, Morris dancing, woodland, bird, insect and fungi walks.
Grimeshaw Wood, Peterborough. Today, tomorrow 10.30am-3.30pm. Further information for other events (0778 344596).
- **Dartmoor National Park Walks:** Folklore and tree tales about the legends associated with trees.
Becky Falls Car Park, Dartmoor. Today from 10.30am.
- **Lincoln Planting:** Help plant trees in the park. Bring a spade.
Hartsholme Park, Lincoln. Today until December 3, further information from the Ranger (0522 68624).



RESISTING TEMPTATION
THE DOW'S PORT GUIDE

Temptation No 2
A powerful urge to win over your bank manager with a treasured bottle of your Dow's '75 Vintage Port, lovingly laid down in your cellar.

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Wee drams full of Irish spirit

At last, our high street stores are starting to stock a wide range of Irish whiskeys

Being Irish and cognizant that it was the Irish, not the Scots, who invented the water of life (*or uisge beatha*), I feel somewhat peeved that our involvement in this spiritous trade has been largely ignored up to now by English buyers (*Jane MacQuitty writes*).

After all, a rough potent spirit was distilled and downed in Ireland as early as the Middle Ages, no doubt with the same gusto and appreciation as poteen is today. Elizabeth I was thought to be partial to a wee Irish dram, and it was her successor James I who granted the first distilling licences.

Irish whiskey enjoyed greater popularity in England during the early 19th century than the Scotch offering. It was, I suspect, Queen Victoria with her unrestrained passion for all things Scottish who persuaded the English to turn from the original Irish whiskey to that made by the Scots. By the late 1880s, Scotch whiskies reigned supreme over their Irish cousins, as they still do today. Happily, Oddbins has done much to redress the balance with its recent launch of eight different Irish whiskeys from both Northern and Southern Ireland.

Ireland's version of aqua vitae is softer and smoother than Scotch whisky. In its finest whiskeys, the Irish has more gentle flavours and a mild, velvety quality which is very different from the powerful, peat-reek character of a great Scotch single malt.

This is due to three important production differences. Instead of using malt, dried over peat fires as the Scots do, giving them the pungent, smoky-scented hallmark, the Irish dry their malts in closed kilns and also use a mixture of malted and unmalted barley. This accounts for the delicacy, no doubt the Scots would say dullness, of the Irish product.

Irish whiskey is also triple distilled in a pot still, the same piece of distillery equipment that a fine single malt from Scotland is made in but with only a double distillation. Finally, Irish whiskey is aged, by law, for a minimum of three years in oak casks (often old sherry casks), but in practice it is more like five to eight years.

Jameson and Black Bush are the two big High Street Irish whiskey names and I much prefer Black Bush, whose honeyed, spicy style has a distinctive elegance (Oddbins £11.99, Thresher £12.29, The Victoria Wine Company, £12.99).

Paddy is the biggest selling whiskey in Cork and other Southern Irish counties and deservedly so, for its soft, smooth palate and light, toasted barley scent have great appeal (Oddbins £8.99).

Bushmills Ten Year Old Malt is Ireland's only malt whiskey, from the same stable as Black Bush. Its deep, smoky-spicy scent and taste has a touch of Islay's peat-reek about it and is well worth the extra few pounds (Oddbins £14.89).

Finally, do not ignore Midleton Very Rare, the finest, rarest whiskey that Midleton produces and a dream to taste, with its extraordinarily fine scented, smoky-spicy bouquet and amazingly rich, velvety, fruity palate. For once, a limited edition spirit that lives up to its name and hefty price-tag (Oddbins £55).

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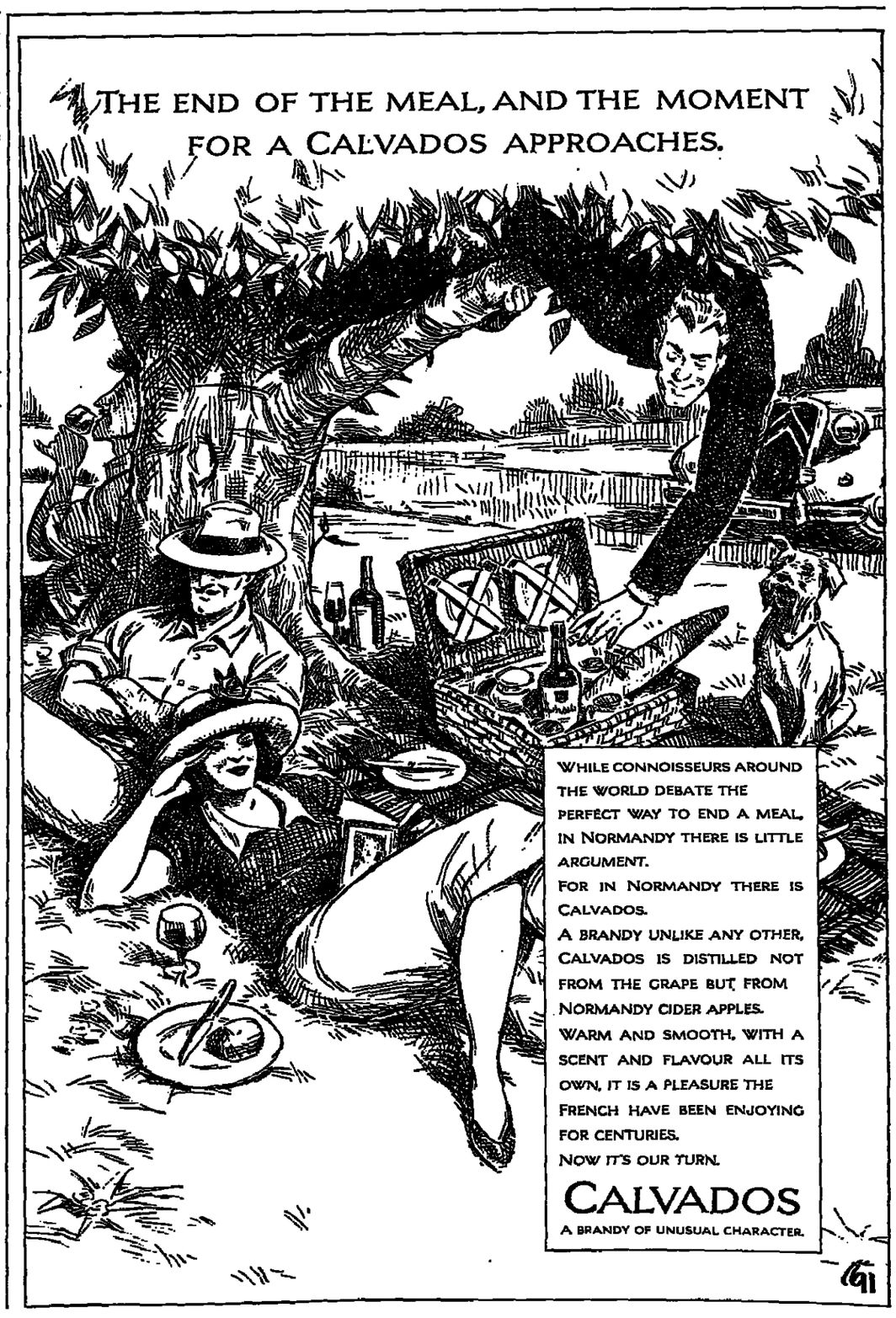


Gilding the gingerbread

FOR CHILDREN

Brian Alderson

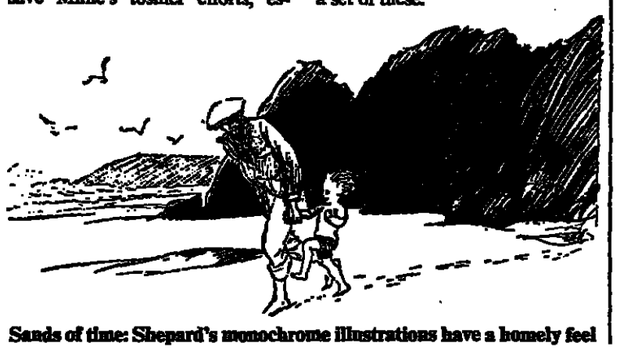
WHEN WE WERE VERY YOUNG
NOW WE ARE SIX
By A. A. Milne
Illustrated by Ernest H. Shepard
Methuen, £9.95 each

To celebrate its hundredth birthday Methuen has published new editions of two of its most popular books. (Maureen Duffy in her history of the Methuen list, *A Thousand Capricious Chances*, notes that the first book lifted the company's profits to a new level, but irritatingly does not show how the titles were subsequently exploited.)

"New edition" is right for the present arrivals though, because the text has been set to a larger-than-customary page-size and all E. H. Shepard's drawings have been coloured in by Mark Burgess. This enables us to see that Christopher Robin was much taken with red (that's why he liked sitting on the stair-carpet and why his dressing-gown nicely matches his eider-down). We also find that grass is green, sand yellow and the sky blue.

Certainly the books will look well in competition with all the other Technicolor wonders of the day, but they don't have the homely feel of the smaller monochrome editions — and not even colour can save Milne's toshier efforts, especially evident in weary old *Now We Are Six*.

As it happens, Methuen does give us a chance to make comparisons, since it has just reissued all four of the famous Milne titles with "re-originated illustrations" (£5.95 each; handsome boxed set £24.95). Whatever "re-origination" means, it has certainly preserved Shepard's line — even though the books seem to be printed on newsprint. The plain stair-carpet, the shaded dressing-gown do not really call for colour. They are proper to the 1920s. Forget Burgess. Buy yourself a set of these.



Sands of time: Shepard's monochrome illustrations have a homely feel

Myth in the making

How much is a biography shaped by the writer's views? Victoria Glendinning on the separation of fact from fiction

Oscar Wilde put it about that on the night in February 1862 when Lizzie Siddal died of an overdose of laudanum, her husband, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, thrust the phial into her hands, saying "There! Take the lot!", before going out and leaving her. It was probably just Wilde's little joke.

But no one knows for sure. There is very little hard information about Siddal, the copper-haired model who lay in a cold bath for Millais while he painted his picture of the drowned Ophelia. She modelled for Rossetti as well, and after years of rows and infidelities he married her. His poems were buried with her body in Highgate cemetery, but later he wanted to publish them and regretted his romantic gesture. He had her body exhumed and got them back.

I have never understood this story. According to one account, Rossetti had copied his poems out for her in a special book, which was placed in the coffin "between her cheek and her beautiful hair". If so, he still had the originals and there was no need to dig her up. Even if the special book was just a romantic fiction, he must have had drafts and tentative fair copies.

This is the sort of problem that illustrates Jan Marsh's thesis. She has written an anti-biography showing how the Siddal story has changed with changing times, and suggesting that all biographical writing is shaped by the writer's circumstances and attitudes as much as by the subject.

When books about Rossetti and his circle first began to appear, Siddal was romantically portrayed as the love of his life. The next generation added a necrophiliac and homosexual nuance. Marsh suspects that the love that dared not speak its name was coded as "being in love with *Miss Siddal*", who was maybe the inspiration for Arthur Symons's ineffably pale and heavy-lidded poem:

I spoke to the pale and heavy-lidded woman, and said:
O pale and heavy-lidded woman,
why is your cheek
Pale as the dead . . .

Everyone agrees about her heavy lids, but the colour of Siddal's eyes is uncertain. William Rossetti said they were greenish-blue and unsparkling. Mrs Burne-Jones said they were a kind of golden-brown. Walter Deverell, who is credited with having first spotted her in the back of a milliner's shop, said they were grey. A. C. Benson said they were pale blue. Likewise, her father was a Sheffield cutler, or an ironmonger in the Old Kent Road, or a watchmaker, or an optician.

Siddal herself, depending on whose account you read, was the angel in the house, the villain of the piece, a tart, a frigid woman, a mute and mystic muse, an hysterical scold, a whining addict, a flower child, a victim of patriarchal oppression, a feeble copier of the Pre-Raphaelite style, or an underrated artist in her own right. She probably was not as beautiful as she appears in Rossetti's rapt "Beata Beatrix" in the Tate. She was never well; the one known photograph of her, like her self-portrait, has a tired, sour, pinched look.

Marsh knows some of the answers, but that is not the point. Factual information, she says, is largely a framework within which biographers sketch their own preoccupations. Her own preoccupation, so far as it can be deduced, is with Siddal as a seriously aspiring and moderately gifted artist and poet.

Even her surname was ambiguous, sometimes spelled Siddal and sometimes Siddall. The variant spellings, says Marsh, verging on a Pre-Raphaelite kind of earnestness, "have, of course, their own symbolic meaning". And in her pursuit of shifting sensibilities, Marsh makes Aestheticism, Symbolism and Decadence sound like well-timed trains pulling into the station of Literature one after another. For those catching the late train called Feminist Criticism, Siddal is "challenging the prescriptions of class and gender".

William Rossetti, describing the way she talked, said her tone was sarcastic. "It was like the speech of a person who wanted to turn off the conversation." If she knew the uses to which it would be put, one can see why.

Marsh's book will be widely read by students of biography as a genre, and it will give sleepless nights to writers of conventional biography. Anne Clark Amor's *William Holman Hunt* is such a work, a conscientious and entirely honourable trundle over the course. The sharpest thing about it is Diana Holman-Hunt's introduction, which is nicely critical of her grandfather's cold-blooded sanctimoniousness, even if it did result in "The Light of the World", one of the most famous pictures painted.

Hunt, too, knew Siddal, and had a long liaison with another model, Annie Miller. Rossetti slept with Miller on the side, making Siddal jealous. The young Pre-Raphaelites, whose finer feelings were kept for their "sacred friendships" with one another, trawled the London streets picking up "stunners" to use as models, and as mistresses, in a pretty ruthless way. Hunt thought Miller was too common to marry and attempted to gentrify her. Happily she rebelled.

In her account of Hunt's second marriage, Clark Amor shows the necessity for Marsh's questioning of myths. The pair were "like happy children who walked hand in hand through the world, even when they reached old age". Yet it transpires that Edith Hunt was domineering, vain, dogmatic, rejectingly jealous of her stepson, and the sort of woman who posted up rules of behaviour all over the house. The two versions are not mutually exclusive, but the clash should surely be investigated.

Hunt was literal and humourless, which makes him funny — like the jumble-sale antiquarianism of the titles of his paintings: "A Converted British Family Sheltering a British Priest from the Persecution of the Druids" and "Berengria Seeing the Girdle of Richard Offered for Sale in Rome".

When he needed a donkey's skeleton to paint an authentic donkey, he could only get a cadaver horse, which he brought home in chunks on a handcart. He and his wife, who was certainly mad, boiled up the joints of horse in a copper in the back garden. The smell was terrible. The neighbours sent for the police.

THE LEGEND OF ELIZABETH SIDDAL
By Jan Marsh
Quartet, £15

WILLIAM HOLMAN HUNT
The True Pre-Raphaelite
By Anne Clark Amor
Constable, £16.95

CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

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Continued on page 42

'nailbiting'
JONATHAN KEATES, OBSERVER

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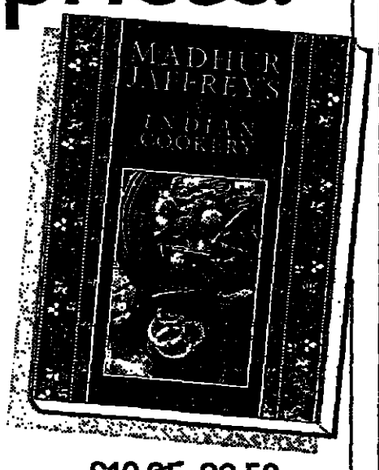

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This week, Madhur Jaffrey's 'Indian Cookery' is just one of the examples you'll find on display in our bookstores.

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Hollywood's real G

Edward Buscombe

DAVID PUTTNAM: The Story So Far
By Andrew Yule
Sphere, £4.99

Showbiz biographies are a genre all on their own. The lives they chronicle follow the mode of melodrama, ending always in tragedy or triumph. With David Puttnam, the *wunderkind* of British cinema, we get two for the price of one. First, the triumph, as Puttnam finds early success producing modest but likeable films such as *That'll Be the Day* and *Stardust*, then breaks through into the big time with the stunning award of best picture for *Chariots of Fire* at the 1982 Oscars. *This is* followed by *The Killing Fields* in 1984, less successful at the box office but rated a big achievement by the critics.

But Puttnam's triumph contains within it the seeds of later disasters. On the crest of the wave of euphoria which sweeps the British film industry after *Chariots of Fire*, Goldcrest Films, with Puttnam on the board, embarks on an ambitious programme of production. Three expensive and risky projects, *Revolution*, *Absolute Beginners* and Puttnam's *The Mission*, are financed simultaneously. Despite winning the main prize at the Cannes film festival in 1986, *The Mission* performs poorly at the box office. The other two films are total flops.

Yet Puttnam's reputation is strong enough for Columbia Pictures to hire him as head of production in the summer of 1986. The tale which then unfolds has all the inevitability of a Greek tragedy. Hollywood's power brokers unite against the upstart Englishman. Puttnam's own hubris, his belief that he can defeat the system's greed and corruption from within, and his compulsion to say so in public, provide his enemies with all the ammunition they need. Originally hired for three years, Puttnam is back in Britain before half his contract is completed, sadder and wiser, maybe, and $3 million richer.

Not only is this a good story

Musical treat from a s

David Sinclair

THE HEART OF ROCK AND SOU
By Dave Marsh
Penguin, £9.99

Described rather optimistically here as "the world's best-known pop critic", Dave Marsh is a former feature writer for *Rolling Stone* and author of books about Bruce Springsteen and others. In compiling a list of his 1,001 favourite singles and then writing at varying lengths about each of them, he has produced a rare treat: more than 600 pages of glowing testimonial, peppered with joyful personal reminiscences and acute polemic, yet — apart from the odd rant about art-rock and Aerosmith — almost entirely free from the jaded put-downs and smart alec dismissals which are the staples of so much rock criticism.

The selection of records does not represent any sort of consensus. Marvin Gaye's "I Heard it Through the Grapevine" is a safe choice for No 1, and most people would expect to find records by the Rolling Stones, Chuck Berry, James Brown, Bob Dylan, Elvis Presley and Otis Redding in the top 20, even if they disagree with Marsh's choice of actual songs.

More controversial are his decisions to award the Birds only one top 30 entry ("Hideaway to Ride") and to deny David Bowie a place anywhere in the entire 1,001. His American bias leaves him floundering with Brit-rock generally.

But it is not where [illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

KS

aufman's judgement is like a ry bright, penetrating light which isleads by giving unreal prom- ence to quite minor blemishes," ys Edward Pearce. I disagree. aufman has a rather steady dgement. It is Pearce who lacks oportion.

This politicians Pearce hates are t as bad, those he likes not as od, and none of them are half so teresting as these 33 belligerent ofiles of nearly-famous House of mmons' figures make out. So rtooning is his wit, so intense his ought, and so dense his prose t the thing resembles a comic Wittgenstein. It is by turns illiant, impenetrable, and quite rrid.

His one-liners ("Paddy Climb- wn", the "hilarious melancholy" Chris Patten, Gummer's phys- ue "a tragic loss to cat-burglary", new Tory MPs as "vanilla- voured pixies") are delightful. It tes wit, but it takes more than to suggest that Kenneth Baker's "is made up of cautious ceptance of any present bitter vour in his mouth in the well- opherded hopes of ultimately joying the sweetest of all tastes". page of Pearce contains enough *s to sustain a chapter* by anyone e. It is like concentrated lemon- ce.

But in that brilliance lie the seeds the horror and the bore that is o Pearce. I do not know whether re is any limit to the number of ys you can be rude about Mrs atcher, but, if there is, Pearce ust be reaching it.

Why argue that Mrs T is appall- ? That she is appalling should be *starting* point of debate, which ould now address the far more interesting question of whether she is necessary. When Pearce starts being snobbish about people in Essex who have not learnt to be rich in a cultured way like people in Sussex, I begin to conclude that she is.

If he thinks saying that David Mellor discovered "that sequences of modulated notes ravish the ear" is an improvement on saying Mellor likes music, or that Mellor hasn't been telling *all* of us, since the day he trod on his first head, that for sixpence he'd jack it all in tomorrow . . . then I must set him straight.

Two serious failings mar this eccentric, fascinating book: one of style, one of content. I shall not dwell on style, save to say that compressed and self-conscious cleverness is a temptation that all of us who are not crossword-puzzle-artists need to avoid. "Altitudi- nous" is not an improvement on "lofty", nor is "lapidary" better than "stone". On content, this: I think there is a fine line between "fair comment" — which, directed at politicians, can be pretty darn rude — and nastiness; and I think Pearce sometimes crosses it. Praise Howe or condemn Thatcher as you please, but it is below the belt to compare the characters of their children — whom we do not know. I realize that John Stanley has more enemies than friends, but he is *not* worthless, and his ministerial career is over. Screaming insults at him — or John Moore — is gratuitous. It might have spoilt a *snide and tidy caricature to men*tion that John Gummer is a splendidly irreverent mimic, or that Michael Heseltine has feelings as well as ambitions, but it might have been fairer.

My real anger, however, is on Nicholas Ridley's behalf. It is a measure of his quality (of which the profile here gives no hint) that he will not reply to Pearce's charge that he was a main cause of the Falklands affair which brought "shoddy political triumph at the cost of so many interred bodies".

Nick *never* gloried in that slaughter. It was to avoid such horrors that, when he was at the FCO, he devised a formula to settle the dispute with Argentina. It was a good formula; none of us foresaw crazed reactions in Buenos Aires; he was brave to risk his political neck in advancing it; it is the settlement that we will ultimately *have to make; and we backbenchers* (I was one of them) were wrong to wreck it.

Only a writer as entertaining as Pearce could rivet the attention as he does. Only a writer as clever as he could leave me as angry as that profile does.

Wit with lashings of lemon

Matthew Parris

THE SHOOTING GALLERY
By Edward Pearce
Hamish Hamilton, £13.95

Jonathan Clark finds some telling political parallels in a new study of Charles II

The politics of absolute power

King Charles II: but was he a Merry Monarch or Slippery Sovereign?

Lord Acton's prim cliché apart, what does power do to rulers? Why are some politicians' styles of government destined for such obloquy while others, equally doctrinaire, preserve a reputation as moderates?

The careers of the last two Stuart kings reflect these problems in some oddly familiar areas: could the head of the executive integrate Britain into a European Catholic bloc, subordinate Scotland and Ireland in the name of English priorities, and circumvent ministerial responsibility through private advisers? Ronald Hutton's masterly biography suggests a conclusion: it was the policy that mattered most. Objections to the style came later.

Strong leaders, even absolute monarchs, owe their strength to a natural social constituency rather than to an authoritarian personality. For Charles, it was the nexus of squire and parson that fuelled the uncompromising counter-revolution of populist Anglicanism. These were the men, like the Vicar of Bray, for whom Good King Charles's days were golden, at least in retrospect. At the time, they found him often reluctant to go as far as they wished in persecuting Catholics and Dissenters. Only later did Charles's reign assume the golden glow of nostalgia, as unhappy Tories under the first two Georges sought a stylish archetype which would highlight, by contrast, the Hanoverian boorishness. Then, Charles's rule came to seem a symbol of the triumph of indulgence, pleasure and tolerance over rigour, earnestness and bigotry. But at the time, it was a much more ambiguous affair.

Hutton elucidates these ambiguities in the best sort of biography, scholarly, accessible and illusionless. Writers used to shy away from the strong executive. Monarchical absolutism was thought to be, in terms of practical power politics, a hopeless cause; it had to be defended by eulogies on its romantic appeal. Against the background of these assumptions, literary stars like Arthur Bryant and Antonia Fraser had to write their lives of Charles. To Hutton, absolute monarchy is just another form of government: what differentiates strong rulers is the popularity or otherwise of their policies, not of their style.

But here the idea of absolutists as ideologues breaks down. Centrally, Hutton punctures the myths surrounding Charles's religion: that he was emotionally committed to Catholicism from childhood, that he confessed to his Catholic rescuers after the battle of Worcester that he thought their tenets unanswerable, that he offered *his* conversion to the Pope in 1654 in exchange for aid, that the secret Treaty of Dover sincerely provided for the reconversion of England, that his deathbed reception into the Roman Church went with a promise to make public his previously accepted faith if he recovered.

CHARLES II
King of England, Scotland and Ireland
By Ronald Hutton
Oxford, £19.50

All these interpretations rest on forged documents or on Catholic efforts to exploit Charles's sympathy for loyal Catholic followers. His deathbed conversion is undoubted, but it no longer stands as the natural culmination of years of conspiracy or as a goal from which Charles had only been deterred by political expediency: the initiative in sending for a priest was not his. Charles's policy on religion was as self-interested as his policy on anything else. Despite his preference for sleeping dogs, his regime's persecution of those who made trouble was severe. In the case of Quakers and Scots Covenanters, a pragmatic policy stirred up a bitter and principled reaction.

Hutton shows a rare insight into the character of a man formed in exile, forced to capitalize on his personal charm. The self-discipline involved was enormous. Charles never showed emotion. His personal courtesy was invariable. Individuals had to be given his whole attention. Anger was almost always successfully bottled up. His mistresses were allowed hardly any influence on policy.

Caution, rather than megalomania or doctrinal commitment, was his truest mode: often he shied away from bold measures, preferring conciliation or surrender. He was not an adventurer like Louis XIV or William of Orange. Charles's physical vitality, stamina *and courage had to be kept severely* in check in his political career. As a ruler, he divided: different groups of advisers were authorized to pursue their own, often mutually contradictory, policies. Tact prevented him from overriding these magnates to their faces; instead, Charles undermined their authority.

"Instead of dominating and leading, he preferred to ensure his supremacy by setting Counsellor against Counsellor and mistress against mistress. Such practices provoked confusion, demoralization, and distrust, among his servants, in Parliament, and in foreign affairs." But this lack of trust was not the result of doctrinal certainty. His style of government, especially in foreign affairs, was to have different lines of policy running at once, conceived with different groups of advisers and often mutually contradictory.

It was not a formula to endear him to them. Betrayed by his father's subjects in his teens, cruelly vindictive to those ministers who betrayed him as king, Charles's view of human nature could hardly be lower. Hutton captures his character exactly: "a set of strongly marked characteristics with a cold void at the centre of them". Bryant's Merry Monarch becomes, in this sceptical, minimalist vision, a Slippery Sovereign. Perhaps that is what power really does to politicians.

Dynastic double-dealing

prus in the 15th century — ategic prize and floating fortress, ght over by Queen Carlotta and bastard brother James, both de signans, two scorpions locked in mbat. Both require the services Nicholas vander Poel, the central aracter of this third volume of series "The House of Niccolo". cholas, at the age of 20, is back m the collapse of the empire of bizond and is a rich man, owner a Venetian bank. His wife is d, thus bringing to an end a iastic marriage to a woman 20 rs older than himself; she had n a wealthy widow and owner of rosperous Bruges dyeworks. His stepdaughters hate him and he unwelcome in Bruges. His ined band of mercenaries is rning for other employers. What e to do?

dere begins another adventure sed strongly on historical fact) the fight between James, a rmer, as beautiful and as dan- ous as his own hunting leopards, knamed "Zacco" by his Vene- supporters, loving and loved men and women, supported by mamelukes of Egypt, against lotta the rightful Queen, who is ported by Genoa but being ed out of her inheritance. achery and double-dealing are ywhere, especially as enormous s of money are involved. Sugar, grown on Cyprus, was as rable as diamonds; and Nicho- is given great estates by the g.

eautiful Cyprus, land of Aphro- is the background for the fying siege of Famagusta, hand- and combats, sea battles, the s of an expensive international tesan to whom Nicholas finds self married, and the death of elina, the young woman he has d and who has borne his child. ong the historical characters is g James's formidable mother nicknamed Cropnose — her nose having been bitten off by her rival the Queen.

Nicholas is also a scorpion — he survives and his enemies, as always, perish; but it is a close-run thing. The excitement of Mrs Dunnett's storytelling runs hand-in-hand with the erudition of her research through a high adventure.

HISTORICALS
Philippa Toomey

RACE OF SCORPIONS
By Dorothy Dunnett
Michael Joseph, £12.95

● **The Black Candle**, by Catherine Cookson (Bantam, £12.95). A tale of two cousins married to two brothers in 1880 — Bridget the businesswoman marries the good brother Douglas, the cruel and selfish Lionel courts Victoria, beautiful and penniless, believing her to be rich, and has to be bribed to marry her. This starts a family feud almost Greek in its implacable progress and pain, with an unsolved murder thrown in. A masterly story of family hatred, spoiled by a tacked-on happy ending.

● **The Lords of Monplaisir**, by Hunter Steele (Macmillan, £12.95). Daniel and Gaspar, heirs to Monplaisir, are brought up by a wicked Abbé to be brave, clever and virtuous. The ravishing Sylvie, niece to the Duke of Guise, causes dissension between them; and a naff love story is set in the more stirring times of the rule of the degenerate sons of Catherine de Medici, beginning with the massacre of St Bartholomew's Day, and working its way towards the murder of the Duke of Guise. Written in prose not so much jewelled as rhinestoned, I found it highly entertaining.

● **The Pillars of the Earth**, by Ken Follett (Macmillan, £13.95). From a thriller writer a huge (806 pages) book on the building of a fictional cathedral at Kingsbridge, begun in 1123 by Philip, first a monk then a bishop. The people who build and live during the civil war between Stephen and Matilda are goodies (very good), or baddies (awful), but Philip proves a saint can be wily as well as good.

● **Ramage and the Dido**, by Dudley Pope (Secker & Warburg, £11.95). The 16th adventure of Captain Lord Ramage, the youngest captain since Nelson, promoted to the Dido, a 74, a ship with huge firepower and a crew of 625 men. Interesting detail on the commissioning of a ship (the real meaning of loggerheads, for example) leads to the French in the West Indies, Ramage victorious at every turn. But phrases such as "a them and us situation" and "don't we all" have no place in the 19th century.

● **Double Wedding Ring**, by Patricia Wendorf (Hamish Hamilton, £12.95). A young woman called Rhoda Greypaull from Somerset sails for America in 1857 to marry her dead cousin's husband, to look after his child and to grow to love him and her adopted country. She also keeps a journal, part of the narrative of a story that covers the horrors of the Civil War and her husband's work in the meat market of the swiftly growing city of Chicago. The Great Fire of Chicago and the fall into poverty of the formerly prosperous family form the background to the simply written journal. Rhoda goes to the wilds of Wisconsin to start a new life. A delightful book, based on the history of the author's own family.

Bang, miss, curse

Jeffrey Abbott

A SHOOTING CREED
By Joseph Nickersen
Sidgwick & Jackson, £16.95

Bang. Miss. Curse. A sufficient history of my own lamentable shooting career: the unprintable in the wake of the unhittable. The shoot is of lowly degree, a group of enthusiasts who are their own keepers, loaders, beaters, chauffeurs, and sutlers. In Rugby football we should be, say, the Much Binding fourth 15: one zinc bath and cold water in the back room of the Seven Stars. Sir Joseph's book is ostensibly for those who play for the Harlequins at Twickenham: parquet-floored dressing-room and a steward who lovingly fills vast individual baths with piping hot water. He himself says that the book is for the First Division. For once, Sir Joseph, you err: your book would be read with enjoyment and profit in far wider circles.

(As I write, in the autumn sunshine three brace of pheasant are pecking importantly along the field-edge — I am tempted . . . But no; I think I shall as ever spare them).

Sir Joseph discovered the joy of shooting birds at the age of nine. He is now 75. His exploits with the gun are unsurpassed; he owns or runs shooting over huge areas both here and abroad; he farms — "farming first, shooting second"; he has founded his own Purple Heather institute; he has experimented with genetic developments in seeds and birds; he is a businessman.

For Harlequins, then, in these 18 chapters he has a very great deal to impart, direct and detailed: on the techniques of shooting; on how to organize a shoot; on equipment; on clothing. (Pheasants gone; sheep safe.)

What of the rest of us, shooters and non-shooters? What emerges principally is respect: respect above all for the birds and the countryside. Sir Joseph has established more birds than he has shot: he has planted a quarter of a million trees and 22 miles of hedge for guests, keepers, loaders, even for "vermin". The last are "God's creatures — as species most of them were here long before us". He restricts the word to gangs of poachers, armed, highly equipped, and vicious.

Courtesy. "Behaviour in the Field" is the second chapter. Sir Joseph's standards are the highest: to be a good shot it is not enough to be an accurate shot; poaching other guns' birds "is a species of theft".

Planning. Sir Joseph has a sandtable in his garage, and plans a shoot as a military exercise: variously-coloured flags, pegs, track-plan, command, and signals. "*Thinking Like a Partridge*" — chapter five — suggests Montgomery and his picture of Rommel. The first principle of war is ever observed.

Also here are: zest, love of health, of fellowship, of humour, of eccentricity, generosity — oh yes, what is common to Harlequin and *Much Binding is greater than what* distinguishes them, and this book should be widely read. It is an impressive book, and gives a strong sense of an impressive man. Shooting has richly rewarded Sir Joseph, and he has richly deserved it. He would choose to die, like the legendary Lord Ripon, on the grouse moor. If it happens, may we hope that he has been gazing at an *apt memorial: hill-sides of rolling* purple heather?

PAPERBACKS

eek tragedy

golf. It raises, in a wealth sscinating detail, the ques- of whether serious film- ng is compatible with the ywood system. Puttnam to Hollywood full of intentions. All his major whatever one thinks of artistic quality, are made meone clearly dedicated ema's potential as a e for ideas.

the time Puttnam be- head of production, mbia was a division of Coca-Cola Company. am's priorities were likely to coincide with of Coca-Cola. Yule ar- that he might neverthe- ave succeeded had he prepared to meet the any half way. But he d unable to interest lf in the kind of popular tainment the studio d to bankroll the more gious productions.

the event, Puttnam succeeded with neither entertainment nor art. The balance sheet of his regime at Columbia makes painful reading, and includes some of the all-time biggest turkeys, such as *Ishtar*, with Warren Beatty and Dustin Hoffman, and *Leonard Part VI*, starring Bill Cosby.

Yule is no stylist. He does not know the *difference* between "disinterested" and "uninterested", and his attempts at "fine writing" can be embarrassing (this on Puttnam's wife Patsy: "her cerulean eyes lit up and her cheeks glowed radiantly as she spoke of her husband and his achievements"). But the research is impressive, and there is a guarantee that the book is no whitewash job, since Puttnam himself, after initially co-operating, has disowned it: "I don't see why I should upset myself by reading it."

It's downhill all the way

Reading this book is an almost indecent pleasure. None — or hardly any — of the literary and bohemian chaps *with whom Barbara Skelton* knocked around before, during and immediately after the war would have *considered* taking a peek at her diary or surreptitiously reading her letters. And yet that is precisely what is offered by this first rumbustious volume of memoirs and diary entries. Page after page drips with the unspent venom or raw remorse of the morning after the night before. Someone has "large fishy dead eyes"; King Farouk is "a huge sawdust teddy bear badly sewn at the joints".

Hugh David

TEARS BEFORE BEDTIME
By Barbara Skelton
Hamish Hamilton, £6.99

As unsparing of herself as of everyone else, her account makes it difficult to tell what sort of child Skelton was. Certainly everything conspired to turn her into a "nice girl". Convent-educated, she had piano lessons and a nice, proper passion for John Gilbert. Nevertheless, she was hardly out of her teens before she was strutting the catwalks for Schiaparelli and making eyes at the likes of Feliks Topolski.

This was in about 1930. It is impossible to be more precise since *Tears Before Bedtime* is more concerned with people and places than dates and times. Most diary entries are undated, while the linking material actively eschews such literalness. Even surnames are optional: "The first time I saw Peter Quennell was at Gerda's in Cultross Street. . . It was about this time that a Yugoslav friend, Dinny, offered me the job of secretary to the Yugoslav government in exile."

However, reality does occasionally impinge on Skelton's pampered progress. There is lots in the diary about the war, for instance; and more specifically about what a wretched time poor little rich girls had. Just fancy: bad red wine and hardly so much as a bottle of nail varnish to be had.

One date does stand out. October 5, 1950, the diary records, was the day of Skelton's marriage to the critic and editor Cyril Connolly. Clubbable rather than lovable, maybe he deserved her; but only in the way that the brittle Skelton deserved the bathroom sulks and huffy silences of her "Pungle". Certainly, looking at things through Skelton's end of the telescope, they seem an awful couple and it is difficult to determine who suffered more in a spectacularly ill-starred match. On the other hand, who are we to care? Skelton's hilarious blood-and-guts account of life with Connolly is the high point of the book.

Gluttons for punishment, fans of the post-war literary *demi-monde*, and anyone who ever met Skelton will be impatient to read volume two of these coruscating memoirs, *Weep No More*, published in hardback this week.

e-minded man

p in Marsh's list that s so much as why he has aken the exercise *in the* lace. Clearly, it is a to enable him to tap in very heart of the deep. in of enthusiasm which ept him writing with ity and insight about ject for 20 years. writes with power and n in that rather breath- yle that rock writers of tage still favour, but has dency to justify his s by imputing motives subjects. For instance, tis Redding really sit down with the intention of producing "a response to the white rock scene's artistic expansionism" when he wrote "Dock of the Bay", or did it just turn out that way?

Coming at a time when the 7in vinyl single is practically *extinct*, and given Marsh's overwhelming preoccupation with the music of the 1950s *and 1960s*, the book takes on an instantly dated feel, something which is accentuated by *the Fifties* pulp fiction illustration on the cover. It already sits on the shelf like an old *friend*.

Sybille Bedford and **Berlioz** are just two of the topics in *The Times*'s deeply wonderful Christmas Books Supplement next Saturday, plus exotica from a cat critic to cooking, and showbiz to sport

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Sat 25 Nov 7.30 THE BACH CHOIR English Chamber Orchestra, Sir David Willcocks (cond) Eiddwen Harrhy, Sarah Walker, Christopher Gillett, Stephen Roberts, John Scott, Jane Watts (organ) Bach Christmas Oratorio Parts 1, 2, 3 & 6 (sung in German). £18, £15, £12, £9, £8, £4.50 The Bach Choir

Sun 26 Nov 3.15 VIENNA BOYS CHOIR Stephan Aichinger (mus dir) sacred & secular music by Purcell, Mozart, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Fauré, Elgar, Kodály; songs, waltzes & polkas; Ziehrer's comic opera "Old Vienna", in costume. £15, £13.50, £10.50, £8.50, £6.50, £4.50 Anglo-Austrian Music Soc.

Sun 26 Nov 7.30 THE PHILHARMONIA Eliahu Inbal (conductor) Elisabeth Leonskaja (piano) Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 2. Stravinsky Rite of Spring £18, £16, £12, £8, £5, £3 Philharmonia Ltd

Mon 27 Nov 7.30 JOHN McLAUGHLIN established himself as a pioneer of the guitar through his work with Miles Davis, the Mahavishnu Orchestra and Shakti. His acoustic trio features the Indian percussionist, Trilok Gurtu. £12.50, £10.50, £8.50 (ONLY) Serious Productions/Speakout

Tue 28 Nov 7.30 THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC Sir Georg Solti (conductor) Shostakovich Symphony No 9. Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 6 (Pathétique) RETURNS ONLY L P Enterprises/Royal Philharmonic Society

Wed 29 Nov 7.30 THE PHILHARMONIA Eliahu Inbal (conductor) Thomas Zehetmair (violin) Rimsky-Korsakov Russian Easter Festival Overture. Dvořák Violin Concerto. Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 £18, £16, £12, £8, £5, £3 Philharmonia Ltd

Thu 30 Nov 7.30 VIENNA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA André Previn (conductor) Haydn Symphony No. 96. Strauss Don Juan; Dvořák Symphony No 8 £60, £50, £40, £30, £20 (ONLY) Harrison/Parrott Ltd

Fri 1 Dec 7.30 THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC Frank Shipway (conductor) Nikolai Petrov (piano) Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No 1; Rachmaninov Symphony No 2 £20, £17, £15, £12, £10, £7, £5 Helen M.Sykes PR & Personal Management

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Sat 25 Nov 7.45 BATTLEFIELD BAND "Forward with Scotland's past" — that's the motto of the Battlefield Band, who wrote the music for the TV series Music in Trust. This concert coincides with the release of the live LP. Home Ground. £8.50 £7.50, £6.50 (concs £1 off all tickets) Speakout

Sun 26 Nov 3.00 ROBERT TAUB (piano) Beethoven Sonata in D Op.28 (Pastorale). Scriabin Sonata No 9 (Black Mass). Babbitt Emblems (Ars Emblematica) (1st perf). Chopin Nocturne in E fl. Op 55 No. 2. Sonata in B min Op. 58 £6.50 £5.50 £4.50 £3.50 The Entertainment Corporation

Sun 26 Nov 7.45 THE FOREST CHOIR The London Pro Arte Orchestra, Murray Stewart (cond) Brian Davies, Linda Strachan, Donald Stephenson, Patrick Wheatley. Fauré Requiem, Rossini Stabat Mater £10.50 £9.50 £8 £7 (ONLY) Forest Choir Promotions

Mon 27 Nov 7.45 LCO FOR UNICEF London Chamber Orchestra, Christopher Warren-Green (dir) Andrew Shulman (cel) Gordon Hunt (ob) Bach Brandenburg Concerto No 3. Albinoni Oboe Concerto in D min; Vivaldi a Cello Concerto; wks by Handel, Elgar & Britten. £10, £7.50 LCO Ltd

Tue 28 Nov 7.45 CONTEMPORARY MUSIC NETWORK John Zorn and Naked City: with his innovative depictions of modern culture, John Zorn brings his unique conglomerate of musical styles to the South Bank for the first time. RETURNS ONLY South Bank Centre/Arts Council of GB

Wed 29 Nov 7.45 THE HAYDN SERIES Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Ton Koopman (cond) Haydn Symphony No 99; Cantata, Berenice che fai; Heiligmesse £12.50, £10, £7.50, £5 (ONLY) OAE/South Bank Centre

Thu 30 Nov 7.45 CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA Richard Hickox (cond) Wayne Marshall (pno) Jill Gomez (sop) Prog incl Barber Adagio; Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue (Jazz ver.); Barber Knoxville: Summer of 1915, Copland Appalachian Spring. £8.50, £5, £3.50 (ONLY) City of London Sinfonia

Fri 1 Dec 7.45 ANNIE FISCHER - CANCELLED owing to indisposition. Recital will be given by DEZSO RANKI piano Beethoven: Sonata in E flat, Op 7. Bartok: Out of Doors. Brahms/Handel Variations, Op 24. For ticket information please telephone the Box Office Harrison Parrott Ltd

PURCELL ROOM

Sun 26 Nov 3.15 VOLANOS SOOKOOR (tenor) PETER GELLHORN (piano). Prog incl arias by Meyerbeer (L'Africaine), Cilea (L'arlesiana); songs by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Duparc, Hahn, Handel, Bridge, Tosti & Neapolitan & Spanish songs. £4, £3 (ONLY) Helen Jennings Concert Agency

Sun 26 Nov 8.00 GUILDHALL JAZZ BAND plays BIG BAND CLASSICS Scott Stroman (dir) 20-year-old Canadian pianist, Hershey Felder, makes his British debut playing Gershwin. Prog also incl pieces by Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Stan Kenton. £6.50, £5 Kingsell Promotions

Mon 27 Nov 8.00 LA BELLE EPOQUE Ondine Ensemble. Pierné Variations libres et finale; Jolivet Pastorales de Noël; Rands "..in the receding mist.." (Brit prem); Roussel Trio; d'Indy Suite en parties, Op.91. £6, £5, £3 Ondine

Tue 28 Nov 7.30 THE GENIUS OF JERRY The Limelight Company with Ros Gitchman (dir/pno) Tony Stacker (drums) Robbie Lent (bass) celebrating the work of Jerry Herman incl songs from Hello Dolly, Mame and La Cage aux Folles. Concert in aid of BACUP All seats £5 BACUP

Wed 29 Nov 8.00 EUROPE - THE GRAND TOUR Joyful Company of Singers, Peter Broadbent (cond). Choral wks by Byrd, Josquin, Palestrina, Haydn, Wolf, Brahms, Martin, Poulenc, Kelly & readings of poetry & prose. £5.50, £3.50, £2.50 Joyful Company of Singers

Thu 30 Nov 8.00 OPUS 20 STRING ENSEMBLE Scott Stroman (cond) Don Lusher (trombone) Stravinsky Conc in D for string orch, Scott Stroman Concertino for trombone, orch & percussion (Lon prem); Ned Rorem String Symphony (UK prem) £8, £5, £3 Opus 20

Fri 1 Dec 8.00 MARY REMNANT Music in Florentine Art 1100-1500 A lecture recital illustrated by coloured slides and harp, psaltery, gittern, mandora, rebec, fiddle, symphony, portative organ, recorder, pipe-and-tabor, shawm, horn etc. £7.50, £6, £4.50 Helen Jennings Concert Agency

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Music Director: Giuseppe Sinopoli

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ELIAHU INBAL conducts

THIS SUNDAY — 26 NOV. AT 7.30 pm

ELISABETH LEONSKAJA Piano

TCHAIKOVSKY Piano Concerto No. 2

STRAVINSKY Rite of Spring

WED. 29 NOVEMBER AT 7.30 pm

THOMAS ZEHETMAIR Violin

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Russian Easter Festival Overture

DVORAK Violin Concerto

TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 5

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in

an Evening of Edwardian and Victorian song

A chamber performance of

WALTON FAÇADE

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WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER 7.30 pm

HANDEL MESSIAH

(Mozart's arrangement)

SIR CHARLES MACKERRAS

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Queen Elizabeth Hall — Thursday 30 November at 7.45pm

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Tomor 26 Nov 7.30pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS 85th Anniversary Season Richard Hickox cond. Steven Isserlis cello Felicity Lott, Alfreda Hodgson, Martin Hill, Vaughan Williams: Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis Elgar: Cello Concerto Britten: Spring Symphony RETURNS ONLY SPONSORED BY NOMURA INTERNATIONAL LSO Ltd
Tue 28 Nov 7.45pm	CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE Sandor Vegh cond. Andras Schiff dir/piano Mozart: Ov. Cosi fan Tutte; Piano Concerto No 21 in C, K467; Serenade for 13 Wind Instruments, K361 Symphony No 39 in E flat, K534 £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 £5 SPONSORED BY THE BOC GROUP Barbican Centre
Wed 29 Nov 1.00pm	WIND SOLOISTS OF THE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE Franz Krommer: Partita in F major Op. 57; Matyas Seiber Serenade Mozart: Serenade in C minor All seats £3.50 concs. £2.50 SPONSORED BY THE BOC GROUP Barbican Centre
Wed 29 Nov 7.45pm	ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA – CZECH EVENING Alis Podešil cond. Ivan Zenaty violin Prog. includes Voříšek: Symphony in D Dvořák: Romance in F minor, Op 11 Dvořák: Symphony No 8 in G, Op 88 All Seats £7.50 Pre-concert talk by Petr Eben and Jaroslav Stastny, 6.30pm, Choir Rooms, this free on door. English Chamber Orchestra and Music Society
Thur 30 Nov 7.45pm	TCHAIKOVSKY EVENING London Concert Orch. Michael Reed cond. Malcolm Binns piano Band of the Welsh Guards Romeo & Juliet Fantasy Ov.; Piano Concerto No 1 in B flat minor; Capriccio Italien; Swan Lake Suite; 1812 Overture (with cannon & mortar effects) £15.50 £13.50 £11.50 £9.50 £7.50 Raymond Gubbay Ltd
Fri 1 Dec 7.45pm	CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE Sandor Vegh cond Andras Schiff piano/dir. Bach: Suite No. 3 Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4 Mozart: Quintet for Piano and Wind, K452 Schubert: Symphony No. 3 £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 £5 SPONSORED BY THE BOC GROUP Barbican Centre
Sat 2 Dec 7.45pm	JAMES GALWAY flute PHILLIP MOLL piano Barbican Celebrity Recitals Series Prog. inc. Dvořák: Sonatina Fauré: Fantasie Op. 79 Debussy: Syrinx Ravel: Habanera £15 ONLY Barbican Centre in association with Van Walsum Management
Sun 3 Dec 7.30pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 85th Anniversary Season Walter Weller cond. Dmitri Alexeev piano Wagner: Ov. Rienzi Schumann: Piano Concerto in A minor Strauss: Ein Heldenleben Please note change of artist £20 £16.50 £13 £10.50 £7.50 £4.50 LSO Ltd
Mon 4 Dec 7.45pm	CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE Claudio Abbado cond. Maria Ewing soprano/narrator Rossini: Ov to William Tell Beethoven: Aria "Ah perfido" Prokofiev: Peter and the Wolf Haydn: Symphony No. 93 £18.50 £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 £5 SPONSORED BY THE BOC GROUP Barbican Centre
Tue 5 Dec 7.45pm	CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA Andrew Watkinson cond. Michael Collins clarinet Handel: Arrival of the Queen of Sheba Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 Mozart: Clarinet Concerto Vivaldi: The Four Seasons £14.50 £12.50 £11 £8.50 £6.50 £5.50 Victor Hochhauser Ltd
Wed 6 Dec 7.45pm	CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE Claudio Abbado cond. Martha Argerich piano Rossini: Ov. The Thieving Magpie Ravel: Piano Concerto in G; Ma Mère L'Oye (Mother Goose Suite) complete £18.50 £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 £5 SPONSORED BY THE BOC GROUP The Barbican Centre
Thur 7 Dec 7.45pm	IGOR OISTRAKH PLAYS BEETHOVEN – The Philharmonia Beethoven: Symphony No. 8; Romance in F for violin and orchestra; Romance in G for violin and orchestra. Violin Concerto in D £17 £15.50 £12.50 £10.50 £7.50 £6.50 Victor Hochhauser Ltd
Fri 8 Dec 8.00pm	KENNY BALL'S CHRISTMAS PARTY with Kenny Ball and his Jazzmen – a celebration of Dixieland with Alan Elsdon, Digby Fairweather, Johnny Parker, Eric Delaney and very special guest Georgie Fame £13.50 £12.50 £10.50 £8.50 £7.50 Raymond Gubbay Ltd in association with John Martin Promotions Ltd

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Saturday 25 Nov. 7.30 pm	NIKOLAI DEMIDENKO piano. Chopin: The 4 Scherzos; Schubert: Sonata in C minor D958; Liszt: Don Juan Fantasy. The superb Russian pianist returns to give his 1st London recital since his sold-out Wigmore Hall concert 2 years ago. £7, £6, £5, £4 The Entertainment Corporation
Sunday 26 Nov. 11.30 am	NEW WORLD STRING QUARTET. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Haydn: Quartet in G Op 76 No. 1; Gershwin: Lullaby (1919); Dvořák: Quartet in E flat Op 51 "Slavonic". £4 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice.
Sunday 26 Nov. NB: starting time: 4pm	MIKHAIL PLETNEV piano London Pianoforte Series. Mussorgsky: Pictures at an Exhibition (1874); Tchaikovsky: The Sleeping Beauty (transcribed Pletnev). £12, £10, £8, £6 Ibbs & Tillett Ltd. Selfridge Hotel
Monday 27 Nov. 7.30 pm	VIENNA FLAUTISTS. 1st London performances of Paul Angerer: Il Promesso; Alexander Rahbari: Beruf & Isang Yun: Quartet for flutes; & works by Mozart, Rimsky-Korsakov, Khachaturian & Johann Strauss. £7, £6, £5, £4 Neil Chaffey Concert Promotions
Tuesday 28 Nov. 7.30 pm	NEW WORLD STRING QUARTET. Beethoven: Quartet in D Op 18 No. 3; Elliott Carter: Quartet No. 2 (1959); Debussy: Quartet in G minor Op. 10. £7, £6, £5, £4 Kantor Concert Management
Wednesday 29 Nov. 7.30 pm	MAXIM VENGEROV violin, IRINA VINOGRADOVA piano. 15 year old Russian violinist. Beethoven: Sonata No 9 "Kreutzer"; Ysaÿe: Sonata No 6 in E. Schubert: Fantasie in C D934. Waxman: Fantasy on themes from Bizet's Carmen. Soviet Master Violinist Series. £9, £7.50, £6, £4.50 Sponsored by Peter Biddulph
Thursday 30 Nov. 7.30 pm	SUSAN KESSLER mezzo soprano ROGER VIGNOLES piano. Schubert: Annie Lyle's Song, Norna's Song, Ellen's 2nd Song; Zumsteeg: Maria Stuart. Schumann: Maria Stuart Lieder; Britten: A Charm of Lullabies; Geddes: 7 Scots Songs (1st perf). Songs by Jensen, Franz & Brahms. £10, £8, £6, £5 McColl Arts Foundation
Friday 1 Dec. 7.30 pm	VLADIMIR OVCHINIKOV piano Prokofiev: Sonata No. 8 in B flat Op 84; Rakhmaninov: 8 Etudes-tableaux Op 33, 9 Etudes-tableaux Op 39 £10, £8, £6, £5 Soviet Master Pianists/Ibbs & Tillett Ltd
Saturday 2 Dec. 7.30 pm	JUILLIARD QUARTET. International Chamber Music. Haydn: String Quartet in C Op 50 No. 2, Hindemith: Quartet No. 2 in C Op. 16 (1921), Beethoven: Quartet in C Op. 59 No. 3 "Razumovsky". £8, £7, £6, £5 HoM
Sunday 3 Dec. 11.30 am	JUILLIARD QUARTET. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Beethoven: String Quartet in F Op 18 No. 1; Verdi: Quartet in E minor (1873). £4 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice
Sunday 3 Dec. NB: starting time: 4 pm	DAVID STAROBIN guitar PATRICK MASON baritone. Sor: 4 Etudes, Souvenirs d'une Soirée à Berlin, Fantaisie No 7, 3 songs from "Seguidillas". Giuliani: Variations on "Folies", 2 Preludes, Variations on an aria from Rossini's "Otello". Spohr: 6 Lieder £6, £5, £4, £3 Classical Guitar
Monday 4 Dec. 7.30 pm	SIRRY ELLA MAGNUS mezzo soprano GEOFFREY PARSONS piano. Songs by Haydn, Schubert, Delius, Sibelius, Rossini, Verdi, Donizetti & by Icelandic composers: Einarsson, Thorsteinsson, Kaldalons, Thoroddsen, Halldorsson, Leifs & Isolfsson. £7, £6, £5, £4 Spons by Goldman Sachs Int. Ltd. Kantor Concert Mgt.
Wednesday 6 Dec. 7.30 pm	VLADIMIR VIARDO piano. Schubert: 3 Klavierstücke D946; Rachmaninov: Variations on a Theme by Corelli Op. 42. Debussy: 12 Preludes Book II. £10, £8, £6, £5 Soviet Master Pianists Ibbs & Tillett Ltd-Selfridge Hotel
Thursday 7 Dec. 7.30 pm	L'ECOLE D'ORPHEE. Baroque Series. John Holloway violin/Lucy Carolan harpsichord/Jay Bernfeld viola da gamba/Susan Sheppard cello/Janet See flute: Conversations amusantes et galantes. 18th C French chamber music; works by Telemann, Guillemain, Couperin, Rameau, Marais etc. £7, £6, £5, £4 Early Music Network
Friday 8 Dec. 7.30 pm	LYNNE DAWSON soprano GEOFFREY PARSONS piano Nonie Morton Recital Award Concert. Poulenc: Fiançailles pour rire. Songs by Schumann, Fauré, Duparc & Richard Strauss. £8, £7, £6, £5 Lies Askonas Ltd

Wigmore Hall — Tue 28 Nov 7.30 pm

NEW WORLD STRING QUARTET

Beethoven: Quartet in D Op. 18 No. 3;

Elliott Carter: Quartet No. 2 (1959);

Debussy: Quartet in G minor Op. 10

Tickets from Box Office/CC 01-935 2141

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WIGMORE HALL — MONDAY 4 DEC. 7.30 pm

SIRRÝ ELLA MAGNUS mezzo soprano

GEOFFREY PARSONS piano

Songs by Haydn, Schubert, Delius, Sibelius, Rossini, Verdi, Donizetti & by Icelandic Composers: Einarsson, Thórsteinsson, Kaldalons, Thóroddsen, Halldórsson, Leifs & Isólfsson.

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Bach: Opening chorus from Christmas Oratorio, Air On a G String; Schubert: Ave Maria; Franck: Panis Angelicus; Handel: Messiah (excerpts), Arrival Of the Queen of Sheba; Clarke: Trumpet Voluntary; Purcell: Trumpet Tune & Air; Bizet: Agnus Dei; Berlioz: Shepherds' Farewell from L'Enfance Du Christ; Carols for Choir, Boys Choir and Audience

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Directed from the violin by JOHN BRADBURY

A traditional Viennese welcome to the New Year with music of the Strauss Family inc. Tales From The Vienna Woods, Czech Polka, Roses From the South, Cuckoo Polka, Ohne Sorgen Polka, Aquarellen Waltz, Annen Polka, Eljen A Magyar, Radetzky March, Bahn Frei!, Jockey-Polka, Wiener Blut Waltz, Eingesendet Polka, Feuerfest Polka, Blue Danube Waltz

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Paul Goodwin oboe/Simon Standage violin

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Continued on page 56

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THE ARTS

A subject trampled underfoot

TELEVISION
William Leith

***Walkie Talkie* (Channel 4) is a series in which Muriel Grey goes on long walks with celebrities and nags them for not being as left wing as she is. This week's victim was Bruce Oldfield, who designs dresses for the Royals. The venue was Lindisfarne.**

Muriel and Bruce were shrouded in heavy fog as they walked along the damp grass. Within moments, Muriel started to nag. "When you got Royal patronage," she said, "people thought, 'Lucky man'. I actually felt rather sorry for you."

"Why?" asked Bruce.

"Personally I could not design dresses for the Royal Family," said Muriel. "A bunch of lassies with no O-levels — that would drive me nuts."

The fog thickened. Muriel nagged on. "Let's get off this topic. Stop being so bloody controversial," said Bruce.

After a while it became clear that the focus of the show was not Bruce, the guest, but Muriel, the host. Muriel did most of the talking. We were given her opinions on various things: the government (she doesn't like it); Britain (a little country with delusions of grandeur); contemporary social mores ("Oh come on, Bruce — how can you say Britain is a gentle place in the Eighties?").

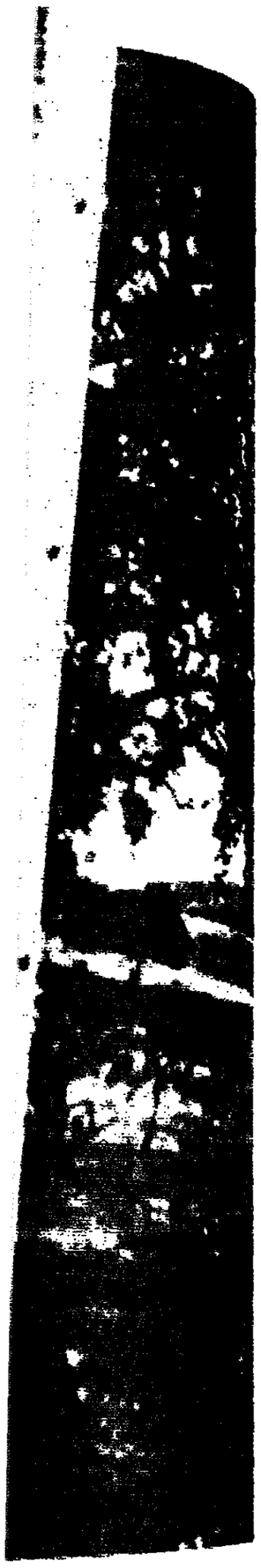
Now and again Bruce managed to answer a question or two.

Muriel led Bruce on to the beach. She ran around in the sand like a child. She told Bruce to take his shoes off, which he did. He was dressed expensively, with an Armani jacket and sunglasses round his neck. She wore shorts, trainers and a tracksuit top. She nagged on this time about the fact that successful people, such as Bruce, tended to support the government.

Bruce should have asked her why it is that rich left-wing people such as Muriel always pretend to be poor. She looked like she might be on the dole. "Have you seen much racism?" Muriel asked the mixed-race Bruce. "Not much," he replied. "I see it all the time," said Muriel triumphantly.

This was quite an entertaining format, although there were moments when it was clear that Muriel had not been doing her research. "What would it mean to you" she asked as the fog swirled around their heads, "if you were a household name and people had Bruce Oldfield on their sunspecs and their underpants?"

"They already have," said Bruce.



Richard Morrison talks to Johannes Schaaf, a one-time rebel turned Royal Opera director

Mozart in flesh and blood

Where are the avant-garde German "New Wave" film-makers now? Where are the campus revolutionaries of 1968, and the idealistic stage directors who thought they could change the world through the power of political theatre?

In the case of Johannes Schaaf, who has played all of these roles, the surprising answer is that he is producing Mozart operas at Covent Garden, hardly the last hiding-place of radical chic. In 1987 he gave London its finest staging of *The Marriage of Figaro* for years. His dark and disturbing *Così fan tutte* followed last season, and on Monday his new production of *Idomeneo* opens. He will also stage *Don Giovanni* for the Royal Opera's Mozart bicentenary season.

So what happened to the angry young man who found the opera world "disgusting" on first encounter? "You must understand one of my main principles," says Stuttgart-born Schaaf, now 56. "I would never get myself hung for my convictions, but I might go to the gallows for the right to change my convictions. At the beginning of the Seventies there was suddenly an entirely new approach to opera: singers became real actors. For me, too, there came the realization that the operatic repertoire is not museum culture: it has some heroes, such as Verdi and Mozart, whose work nearly always has contemporary significance."

Perhaps, too, Schaaf grew disillusioned with the potential of polemical theatre. "I don't see how theatre can convert people to a point of view, however beautiful — to pacifism, for instance. Who goes into the theatre believing in one sort of politics, and comes out two hours later believing another? Theatre cannot *tell* people what to think. That never worked, not even for Brecht. But it can wake up the audience's sense of fantasy — and that fantasy can then be used to understand the world. To that extent, but no further, theatre is a political instrument."

The arguments sound reformed, but one should not underestimate the Royal Opera's boldness in inviting Schaaf to direct — for some of his other operatic expeditions have been highly controversial. The opera management in Dusseldorf is possibly still recovering from the shock of Schaaf's "barbed wire" staging of Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera*, and in the end Hamburg was never allowed to see his conception of *Rigoletto*, because the conductor conspired with the baritone in the title-role to abort the staging before the first night.

"I did once have a big fight in Hamburg," admits Schaaf. "At the time I wrote an article pointing out that all those people claiming a production is 'not authentic' are being rather stupid. It doesn't matter a damn whether a production is set in AD 2,000 or 2,000 BC. There's only one way of understanding opera, and that is the way of our century in its ninth decade. Now I say to the casting people: please ask this singer whether he or she wants to work with me. Also, theatres must decide what they want: my sort of production or one which is just beautiful voices."

Yet the surprise of Schaaf's Covent Garden *Figaro* was that outwardly it was not radical at all: its strength lay in intense probing of character and motivation, and its rigorous exclusion of any movement or gesture which did not further the analysis.

Johannes Schaaf: at 56, defending to the death the right to change his convictions

Schaaf takes a serious, some would say pessimistic, view of human nature as revealed in opera; he researches extensively around the subject, and his first aim in rehearsal is to make the singers think.

He treats Mozart's operas as plays, which means that he regards recitatives not as dry, boring bits between the tunes, to be rushed through as painlessly as possible, but as crucial to building the characters. "Recitative is generally much too quickly done. If you slow it down, you realize how much time you have for stagecraft, how you can use the pauses. The recits contain the justifications for the arias."

For the arias, Schaaf works on the principle that "these are not solos; they are ensembles, maybe with only one voice singing, but with (let's say) four bodies to move. The sung ensembles in *Idomeneo* are wonderful, because they express general misunderstanding: the characters are supposedly singing to each other, but the music expresses terrible loneliness. It is rather breathtaking and touching how Mozart — like Shakespeare — can move from beauty to loneliness, from hatred to love, so quickly and easily."

Schaaf seems cut out for the tragic spirit of *Idomeneo*; he is scarcely a natural director of comedy. The lack of a light touch was the main criticism of his *Così*, and by all accounts his Amsterdam production of *Die Fledermaus* was a weird experience. Even he admits that patrons who expected the customary Johann Strauss fun and froth would have been startled.

"I wanted to show that the characters in *Fledermaus*, though superficial, do epitomize Victorian middle-class values — values which have shaped our present world. I made Prince Orlofsky a young boy who has already seen it all. His music is really pornographic if played slowly enough, so I set it with the chorus girls doing a strip — but only of their watches, their rings, their tiaras. And all the time the young boy was trying to learn to waltz, practically in tears." Schaaf permits himself a rare laugh. "It was, I think, quite a good idea."

ROCK
David Sinclair

Bob Mould
Astoria

It was difficult to believe that the trim, poised man who walked on to the stage at the Astoria was even related to the long-haired slob of a guitarist who used to lead Hüsker Dü. In a lengthy and turbulent career, the trio from Minneapolis became America's most celebrated and influential hardcore act, and Mould, with his cataclysmic, thrashing style was hailed as an underground deity.

Hüsker Dü was like a beautiful, incredibly powerful car, taken for an extended joyride and eventually driven over a cliff. Mould has emerged from the wreckage 60lbs lighter, his hair close-cropped, and with his music similarly tightened and spruced up. He now fronts a band of experienced hired hands: Anton Fier (drummer with the Golden Palominos), Tony Maimone (bassist with the Palominos, Pere Ubu) and Jim Harry (guitar).

They make Hüsker Dü sound like the ragged amateurs that they once proudly were.

After the delicately intertwined guitar picking of "Sunspots", the opening track on Mould's acclaimed *Workbook* début, they burst into "Wishing Well", a comparatively coarse explosion of noise, overlaid by Mould's raucous vocals, which sounded at times rather like Phil Collins with a very sore throat.

No matter how extreme a sound Hüsker Dü made, their songs always have kernels of melodic and harmonic beauty. As a solo artist, Mould has developed this side of his musical persona, and this show unfolded with a series of terse, literate statements which combined lyricism with the controlled release of a huge supply of pent-up energy, reminiscent of writers such as Pete Townshend and Paul Weller in their heyday.

By contrast, "Whichever way the Wind Blows" was a nod in the direction of the old Hüsker Dü ways, Mould lurching around like a wounded animal, shrieking aimlessly into his microphone. He did a similar job of laying waste to Neil Young's "Cinnamon Girl" during the encores, but more typical of the event was the sequence of Hüsker Dü songs which he performed solo on acoustic guitar at the end. Stripped of their mega-decibel armour "Hardly getting over it" and "Makes no difference at all" were revealed as the great contemporary folk songs they are.

CONCERT
Paul Griffiths

BBC SO/Boulez
Festival Hall

The BBC's Boulez retrospective, begun in January, had its long-awaited finale on Thursday, when, at the close of a magnificently sustained and enthusiastically received concert of music central to his repertoire, the composer conducted the first complete British performance of *Le visage nuptial*.

First composed in 1946, the work went through an intermediate version, which Boulez conducted in 1957, and was then set aside, after which the published score was left as a tantalizing repository of frantic rhythmic complications involving soloists, chorus and orchestra at high speed with chaotic vocal lines. The new version moderates those extremes, and when four of the five movements were performed last year, it seemed that this explosive piece had been emasculated and prettified.

With the massive centrepiece in place, however, things sound rather different. Certainly the new score is smoother and carries the anachronistic marks of intervening works: the long decorated melody of *Eclat Multiples* in the first movement, for instance, and the chopped regular rhythms of the even-numbered *Notations* in the fourth. However, earlier in this concert, Boulez had suggested that a moment from his *Rituel* had been composed by Stravinsky 60 years before in *Zvezdoliki*: an apparent anachronism can be merely anticipation.

What is most important, though, is that the work retains its high charge and its sense of skidding away from any attempt to clarify and codify.

Following his poet, René Shar, Boulez produces a sensation of concentrated abandon, though in the transition from poem to cantata, and perhaps also from first version to last, there is a shift from the carnal into the frustrated ardour of a creativity intoxicated with possibilities beyond realization. The possibilities are now more sharply in focus — in the rich harmonies and metallic chinks of the second movement, the incantations of the fourth, and the fine string textures of the finale; still, much in this raging torrent of a work remains ungraspable.

There were elating performances by Phyllis Bryn-Julson, Elizabeth Laurence (who was outstandingly audible), the women of the BBC Singers, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

The other new work was Messiaen's *La Ville d'En-haut*, a short but grandly imposing postlude to his other orchestral visions of the Heavenly Jerusalem, in the ruggedly simplified style of his most recent music: it is a sequence of verses and refrains, including bird songs, for solo piano (Yvonne Loriod), woodwind ensemble and xylophones, and of huge chorales for full orchestral wind and gong-rich percussion.

Stephen Pettitt

LSO/Tilson Thomas
Barbican

In this hall (as I have written often enough) there is a constant danger of the brass sounding overpowering and too raucous, and when their contributions are as considerable as they are in Bruckner's Sixth Symphony, that danger is increased to the point of threatening the ebbs and flows of the entire work. Michael Tilson Thomas was unwilling to curb the natural excesses of the London Symphony Orchestra in this respect, yet in the end his reading succeeded, because he showed an innate understanding of the music's spaciousness. Despite some alarming Maazel-like exhibitionism, he allowed the symphony to unfold at its natural pace, so that one suspected that if the wonderfully luxuriant adagio had gone on for ever, nobody would have objected.

Of course the work has its brisker moments; the one-in-a-bar, crisply played Scherzo (still marked "not fast") paid due heed to the rituals of the classical form with its compelling inevitability, and both the complex finale and the imposing first movement displayed clarity, balance and an emotional directness which spoke volumes for the sureness of Bruckner's instincts in this piece, which, for once, he refrained from revising.

Brahms's Haydn Variations conveyed a similar cogency through being allowed their own sense of space (though again it was advisable to take no notice of the conductor's superfluous gestures). The LSO's woodwind, particularly, made a sure and impressively euphonous choir, and the strings sounded gratifyingly rich and confident in slow music and fast.

But when Maria Ewing sang two of Fiordiligi's arias from Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, the orchestra was pared down to an ensemble based on five desks of first violins, which experienced serious problems. These were due not simply to an odd imbalance in the strings' favour, but also to a lack of really strong attack and an unwillingness to make bold, percussive bow strokes. Ewing, however, was in excellent voice, though she found it hard to create a concentrated, dramatic atmosphere in "Come scoglio immoto resta". All was well, however, in the Rondo "Per pieta", and if her first attempt at an extravagantly quiet high note flopped, her second certainly did not.

RADIO
Martin Cropper

One conclusion to be drawn from Funta Film (Radio 3, today) was that, in the fully united Europe of the next decade, radio drama will take at least twice as long as at present, the reason being the need for non-simultaneous translation into half a dozen languages.

Written and directed by Pietro Formentini for RAI, the play, entertained the idea of King Kong materializing in a supermarket, bearing a girl off to her flat, baring his anthropoid soul and finally revealing himself as a doctor of psychology conducting a field experiment. Having been won round by his impressive physique and a judicious reading of *Beauty and The Beast*, the girl saluted his human puniness with a tantrum. This spoke volumes for the Italian notion of womanhood.

Popular internationalism is best exemplified by the lurid wackiness of *It's A Knockout*, and *Funta Film* would have been just as inconsiderable if it were not for the resourcefulness of its production which, though overmuch in love with the echo chamber, resulted in a genuine piece of creative radio. Its satirical collage of multilingual announcements — a studio discussion entitled "King Kong: One or Two Projections?"; an advertisement for an "international" deodorant capable of deodorizing the whole world — suggested what might happen if a drunken film editor were to subvert a star-studded international production by making a salad of the soundtracks.

On the eve of last year's Cup Final, Hunter Davies attended a gathering of 450 football referees, whom he witnessed queuing for the autographs of the following day's officials. As a supporter of Carlisle United he may well have felt out of his league. *Pillars of Society* (Radio 4, Sunday) considered the role of the men in black who will always be unpopular with at least half the crowd. Indeed, the great curiosity about them is that they are non-partisan in an atmosphere where such an attitude is tantamount to irresponsibility. Perhaps too much was made of the difficulty of their task. Association Football has only 22 players on the pitch, not 30; the rules are not remotely as complex as those of rugby union, and referees are never called upon to try to dissuade rival gangs of 20-stone players from breaking one another's jaws.

Court without cobwebs

THEATRE
Irving Wardle

Hamlet
Barbican

I have always wondered why Gertrude and Claudius were so keen to prevent Hamlet's return to Wittenberg. But as they plead with the helplessly dejected hero of Ron Daniels' production, it seems they are simply afraid that he might get lost on the way.

Hamlet is not only the outsider at this court: he is also its weakest and least prepossessing member.

Antony McDonald's set may present a fractured Elsinore that appears to be sliding into the sea. But the court itself, headed by Peter Wight as the ablest and most popular monarch ever to murder his way into power, exudes self-confident health; and once peace has been concluded with Norway, the only embarrassment is that of the gloomy heir apparent, hanging about in his long black coat and spoiling the party.

But it is inconceivable that he should be a source of danger. And, by the same logic, when he is loaded with the revenge mission, it is too much for him and he escapes into the role of a lunatic in institutional pyjamas.

I admired this low-status reading, defying all the fixed ideas about princely behaviour, when it appeared at Stratford last April. It now reaches London much enriched with fresh detail and accumulated definition.

There is a hard, forthright Gertrude (Clare Higgins) with a mind of her own; a pathos-free Ophelia (Rebecca Saire) who plays the mad scenes (in Hamlet's coat) with searing clinical accuracy; and a rivetingly non-sepulchral Ghost (Russell Enoch) who saves Gertrude from her frenzied son in the closet scene, and makes an exit of infinite sadness on finding she cannot see him. In this scene, too,

Escape: Hamlet and Ophelia

there is the amazing sight of mother and son coming down to earth after the murder and laughing hysterically over their dislike for the victim.

But the heart of the performance is Claudius's gradual discovery of his deadly adversary, as Mark Rylance's Hamlet changes from a harmless idiot into a menace. Rylance, leaping up and down like a child when the players are announced, and pulling funny faces at Patrick Godfrey's stonily contemptuous Polonius, then gets into a vein of inspired lunacy with the play scene. Mr Wight's Claudius cannot believe what is happening; and he, in turn, begins cracking up; almost drowning Hamlet in the hip bath where he is washing off Polonius's blood; and erupting into carpet-chewing rage on receiving the respectful letter from his supposedly beheaded nephew. Is there no way of getting rid of him? It is as though Tom and Jerry had been let loose in the tragedy. I have not been so held by it for years.

Jeremy Kingston

Golgo
Leicester Haymarket

Hot on the heels of *7 Lears*, premiered at Sheffield this month, comes another haunting, unclassifiable play from Howard Barker. Set in the parkland of a château as the French Revolution gets under way, the seigneur and his guests pass what may be the last moments of their freedom, and in some cases their lives, enacting incidents from the Crucifixion.

It is not, however, as simple as that. And how would it be with Barker, whose plays sling you up and down reality levels? After some of the seigneur's speeches the lighting becomes harshly bright and the guests, speaking in unison, warn us not to trust the words of this man of privilege.

These warnings occur after the seigneur's mastery of words looks likely to present him in an appealing light.

Since the play is subtitled *Sermons on Pain and Privilege*, the key warning is the one that tells us: "Enemies of the common people like to pretend their pain is complicated by privilege." Do not, that is, let leaders persuade you they are different.

Back in their 18th-century roles, however, the guests permit the seigneur to dispose of their lives as he sees fit. And here Barker's play becomes very perplexing, because on no level is the seigneur's purpose articulated. Nor does he appear to suffer the sort of pain we common people would regard as such, privileged or otherwise.

This appears to be the revelation Barker wants to leave us with: the seigneurs of this world may talk lovely but they do you down in the end — and I dare say it is relevant that the French use "Seigneur" as we use "Lord", to mean God.

The play is produced by the Wrestling School, a company dedicated to Barker's works, and set on a stage scattered with rugs in front of three posts that we may take to be the bases of crosses.

The Minister of State (Benny Young) speaks for Pilate, the young dentist (Philip Franks, who is excellent) is a thief; others play Joseph, Mary and witnesses whose presence the Gospels fail to mention.

Roger Frost plays the seigneur (and also Christ) giving the character the effete elegance sometimes affected by womanizers and relishing his well-phrased lines. The men — Kenny Ireland is the fourth — convey the conversational tone better than the women, who do not, for example, suggest they know how their broken sentences might have ended.

Nicholas *Le* Prevost's thoughtful direction fleshes out the scenes with lively detail and the play, puzzling though it is, nags insistently at the mind.

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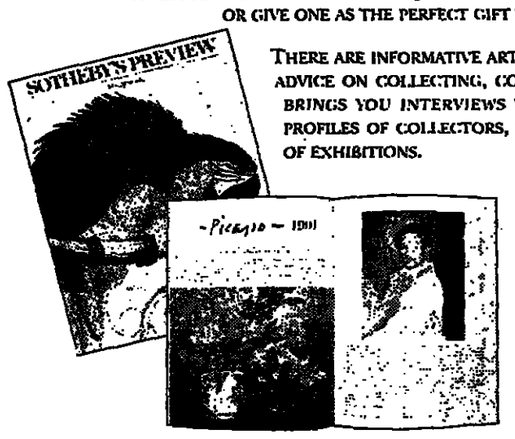

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FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Choice cuts of hamming

Would you buy cigarettes from a man with a licence to kill? The Japanese would. Joe Joseph reports

TOKYO 25 NOV 1989 JAPAN

We are all grateful for weekend shopping hints, but when Sylvester Stallone looks you in the eye and says Ito Ham "is so delicious that it is a gift of love", what do you make of it? The testimonial, not the ham.

And when was the last time Roger Moore, ex-British secret agent, suggested that you get with it and smoke Lark cigarettes? When did Paul Newman's blue eyes last chuckle into yours and try to persuade you that only a halfwit walked around town without a certain bank's credit card in his wallet?

If you've never been to Tokyo, it may be worth passing up the new red Mercedes and paying the round-trip fare to Japan just to gawp at which products your favourite movie stars are putting their names to here. It may be the only way you will find out. Many are too shy to let the ads be seen anywhere else.

We all know the Japanese feel uncomfortable paying less than twice as much for anything as anyone else in the world. Apparently they don't mind paying screen idols as much for a 15-second commercial as they might get for three months' work on a feature film in Hollywood. Eddie Murphy is getting $3 million for making his eyes pop out at the sight of Toyota's latest saloon, although, in fact, they may well be popping out at the sight of the cheque.

The Japanese are polite enough, or desperate enough, not to pry into why so many of these stars are happy to work for Japanese advertising agents, selling everything from tyres to toothpaste, but then demand clauses in their contracts that guarantee that their fans in the United States and Europe will never, ever see the commercials. It doesn't take Wittgenstein to wonder why appearing in an advertising campaign in Tokyo boosts a star's popularity in Japan, but somehow disappoints his fans on the other side of the Pacific.

Well, some film stars are notoriously touchy. Many travel on location with their own rewrite team. If the film script calls for them to blow their nose, they might complain to the director that the character is not a nose-blower by nature and that, anyway, nose-blowing could revolt his fans.

But when it comes to Japanese commercials, anything seems to go, as long as no one, apart from 120 million Japanese, sees the final result. Since the movie-loving Japanese comprise the second biggest market for Hollywood films after the United States, cold feet about what fans might think in Boston or Bromley seem doubly queer.

So here we have Roger Moore filling his lungs with Lark cigarettes. Like James Coburn, who also advertises the Lark brand, Moore isn't blunt enough to say, "Go on, have a cigarette, why don't you", or "Mmmm, tasty". Instead, like Coburn, he urges us to "Speak Lark". This demand baffles most Japanese, though they would probably be just as baffled if the request was to "Smoke Lark".

Anyway, the chain-smoking Japanese light up cigarettes between consecutive bites of *sushi* and seem to know what to do with Larks when they have them, so perhaps Moore and Coburn are getting their message through.

Moore and Coburn are not alone. Anyone whose name has ever appeared on a film's list of credits in a position less obscure than best boy or first grip seems to find work in Tokyo.

Paul Newman, whom I always thought never advertised anything apart from his own pasta sauces and salad dressing, and then only for charity, earns an undisclosed but fat sum for performing on behalf of Fuji Bank. Sammy Davis Junior croons about coffee. Alain Delon drinks Remy Martin Cognac. John McEnroe and Tatum O'Neal brush their teeth with Assess toothpaste. Arnold Schwarzenegger downs instant Japanese noodles to replenish himself after a work-out. Mickey Rourke looks steamy and says, "It's my passion", though I can't remember whether the "it" is a fast car or Suntory whisky. He advertises both of them rather passionately.

TOKYO 25 NOV 1989 JAPAN

There's nothing unusual about famous actors telling you which brand of bath cleaner they would find it pretty hard to live without. What is unusual is the "Japan only" clauses that their lawyers weave in to their Tokyo contracts. These slap huge penalties on the advertiser if a commercial that has been shot for a Japanese product gets seen abroad, even if the world doesn't cave in as a result. If the Japanese still rush in with their chequebooks, they are not completely blind to the slight.

Japanese advertising executives complain that film stars want the cash but see no cachet in being in Japanese commercials. Many stars can make between $500,000 and $1 million from appearing in a Japanese ad, but the resulting film footage is something they would rather not advertise abroad.

The Japanese are sly enough to have turned the rules to their advantage as well. If what is seen in Japan has no impact on what goes on elsewhere in the world, then presumably no one will object if Japanese companies hijack the faces of dead movie stars to put some zip into their products' tired image.

Japan started vacuuming up American film stars in the Fifties, a golden age when the United States stood for baseball, hamburgers, Hollywood, and everything else that a still poor Japan yearned for. Some of the stars from that golden age are still winking from advertising hoardings across Japan, even though they died years ago. Irritatingly for the estates of these actors, Japanese law does not oblige Japanese firms to pay royalties for "portrait rights" of dead stars.

So James Dean promotes just about everything in Japan from hygienic rubber gloves to hi-tech robots. He is infinitely obliging. You only have to ask and he will personally endorse your noodle restaurant or petrol station. Marilyn Monroe's face peers out of the unlikeliest posters in the unlikeliest places. Top American lawyers have complained and prosecuted, with little luck. It may be the only area in which American lawyers have failed miserably to get compensation for their clients.

There are two reasons why Japan's advertising industry needs so many foreign stars. One is that it likes to use foreigners in its commercials, and Hollywood actors are the most famous foreigners they can find. While New York and Paris catwalks are crying out for slinky Japanese models with the mystery of the East, Japanese advertisers fill the gaps between programmes with preppie Americans puffing cigarettes in New England settings with surfboards under their arms. This is another reason why, given the choice, Japanese advertisers prefer film stars. Film stars can act.

TOKYO 25 NOV 1989 JAPAN

Preppie young Americans who are sucked into Japanese ads hold their cigarettes as they might if their fingers had just come out of plaster. Maybe they have. After each puff they look with quizzical approval at this strange tube in their hand, as if they were Walter Raleigh and were trying out this gimmick for the first time. The ads end with everyone laughing uncontrollably, which makes you wonder just what is in those Japanese cigarettes.

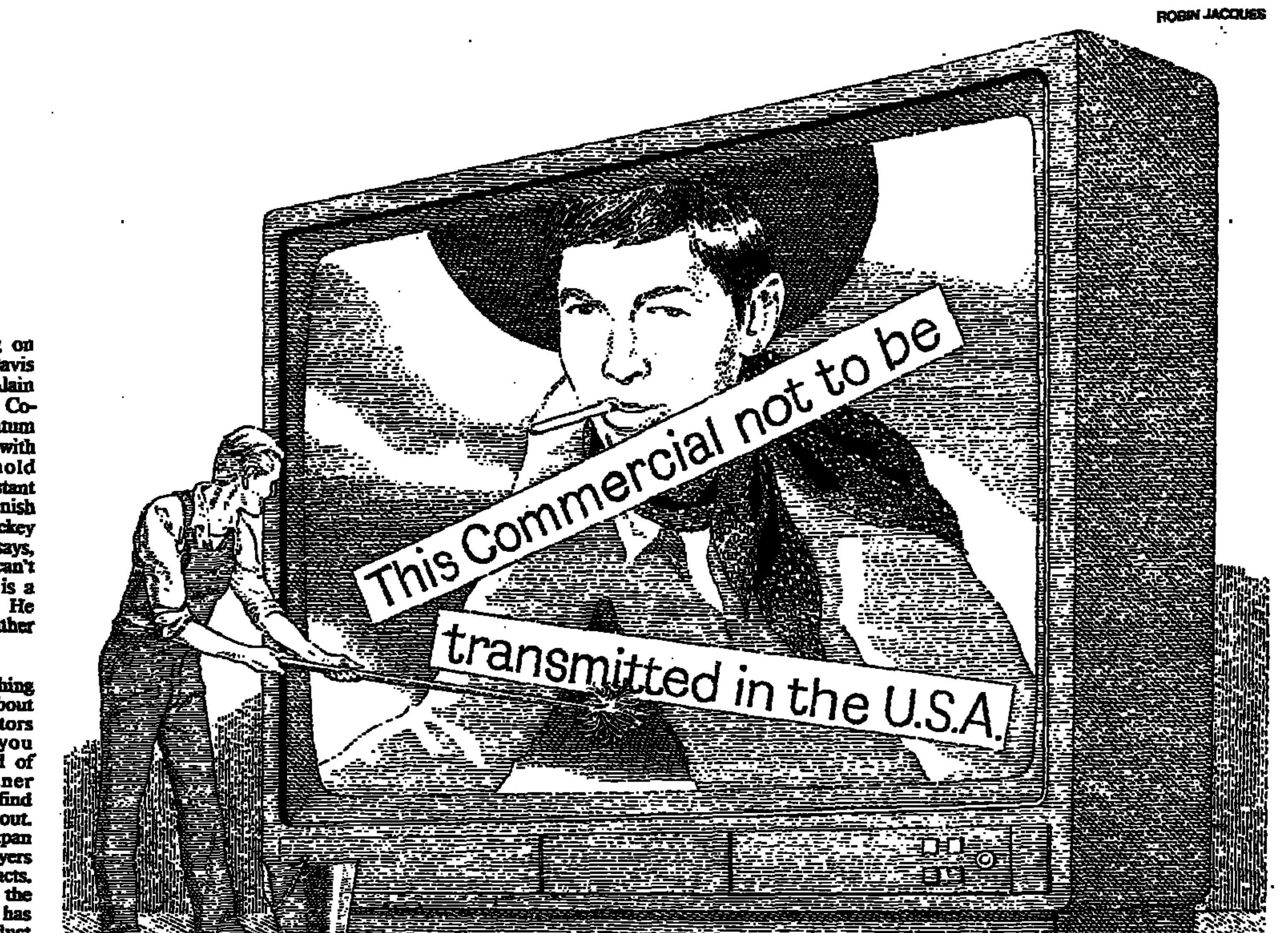
The other reason that Japan needs so many foreigners is that there are so many new products to advertise.

Japanese business works on the principle of creating market share and then keeping it. So if your rival produces a new red-coloured beer, you produce 99 new brands of red-coloured beer. Thus, by the law of averages (assuming that all red-coloured beers taste equally inviting or equally disgusting), only one out of every 100 shoppers will pick your rival's product off the supermarket shelf. Well, you've guessed it: the rival company then produces a few hundred more brands of red-coloured beer to balance out the averages again. It may sound a fairly corny business strategy, but it's what helped to make Japan stinking rich.

The result of all this is that after almost every television commercial a little voice pipes up and says: "New Product." Most of these new products don't last longer than it takes to work out how to pronounce them. Red-coloured beer could be in the shops in June and out by August. But in those three months, if beer drinkers desert traditional ales, then at least the same companies keep the business.

When all else fails, and the job or the cheque is too small for anyone famous, Japanese advertisers take to the streets and your letterboxes. Do not ask why, but they have decided that advertising material is most likely to be read if accompanied by a miniature pack of free tissues. Stroll down a busy Tokyo street and you can fill a rucksack with miniature packs of free tissues. Should you somehow run out of free tissues and decide to restock at the supermarket, you will find the store entrance barred by young girls desperate to give you a leaflet and some free tissues.

Now the tricky thing about tissues in Japan is what you are supposed to do with them. Every Japanese carries a cotton handkerchief to dry his hands, because even the swankiest loos don't have hand towels. Blowing your nose in public in Japan is very vulgar. Only untutored foreigners do it. So what do the Japanese do with their tissues?



ROBIN JACQUES

RECORDS

CLASSICAL UPDATE

Rott: Symphony in E
Cincinnati Philharmonia/Samuel (Hyperion CDA 66366)
Memories of Bruckner and Brahms, but also striking pre-echoes of Mahler in this student symphony by a composer who anticipated another contemporary, Hugo Wolf, in his sudden lunacy. Gerhard Samuel conducts with compelling persuasiveness.

Martland: Babi Yar, Drill
Residentie Orchestra/Howarth, Bouwhuis/Van Zeeland (Factory FACD 266)
Two big and powerful works: energetically pulsed, sometimes brutal, but staggeringly imaginative. *Babi Yar*, regrettably titled, is for a large, metal-heavy orchestra; *Drill* steers two pianists. Outstanding performances.

Rolf Hind (Factory FACD 256)
A beautiful, clear-toned, snap-rhythmed recital from this exceptional young pianist. His programme includes Ligeti's first book of studies, making Technicolor diffraction patterns out of black-and-white piano tone, a Messiaen bird, a Carter sonata and a piece by Steve Martland.

Darker sides of Verdi

CLASSICAL
John Higgins

Verdi: Un ballo in maschera
Barstow/Domingo/Nucci. Vienna Phil/Karajan (DG 427 635-2) (2 CDs)
Verdi: Simon Boccanegra Te Kanawa/Aragall/Nucci/ Burchuladze. La Scala Orch/Solti (Decca 425 628-2) (2 CDs)

By coincidence the two conductors, Herbert von Karajan and Georg Solti, whose names dominated the operatic side of this summer's Salzburg Festival, meet in middle period Verdi this month. Karajan was prevented by death from conducting his first *Ballo in maschera* at Salzburg; Solti was the man who took over a few days before the opening.

Before he died Karajan at least had time to complete his first *Ballo* on record. And it is a notable testament to one of the world's greatest Verdi conductors. Karajan shows little taste for the more frivolous side of the opera: perhaps this was one of the reasons why he avoided *Ballo* in the opera house after his early days just as he avoided *Così*, although he did make an impressive recording of the Mozart. Oscar's music (Sumi Jo, a lightweight, almost giggly figure) is not very frisky. And Domingo is made to linger rather longer than he might have liked over Gustavo's Barcarole. But when it comes to exploring the dark underbelly of Verdi's tragedy Karajan is supreme.

The high points arrive at the close of Act II: the singing turns almost conversational in its intimacy and the Vienna Philharmonic makes it quite clear that murder is on the way. A similarly direct signpost is given in the vengeance trio of the following scene, with the fiercest thunder in the air. And at the close of the opera Karajan and Domingo together make superb music with Gustavo's dying phrases.

The controversy caused when Josephine Barstow was first announced to sing Amelia is likely to continue with these records. She does not act as well with her voice as she does with her body, and until the CDV comes out there is no stage to help her. But at the big emotional moments Barstow comes into her own and shows why Karajan chose her: these are at the close of the Love Duet and in the Act III confrontation with her husband, Renato.

In the latter role Leo Nucci offers a most complete performance, spinning out the long vocal line of "Alla vita" in the way Cappuccilli used to do — and sometimes still can — while showing later how sharp is the bite of jealousy. As at Salzburg, Placido Domingo turns Gustavo into an heroic figure, which might not be historically accurate but certainly accords with Karajan's view of *Ballo*.

Solti's first *Simon Boccanegra* on disc — he has already recorded *Ballo* twice — also stars Leo Nucci, in the title role. Nucci has been everyone's first choice baritone for the Italian repertory these last couple of years and it is easy to see why: the voice never sounds taxed and nowadays carries much more colour than once it did. Here Nucci has to stand comparison with Cappuccilli, the world's leading Boccanegra once Gobbi had left the stage. And indeed Decca's new set has to challenge DG's classic 1977 recording (under Abbado) based on the Scala production starring Cappuccilli and Freni. Solti has been characteristically cheeky in also going for the Scala orchestra and chorus.

Nucci does exceedingly well. He may not have Cappuccilli's vocal weight when he exhorts both sides in the Council Chamber scene to open their hearts to peace and love. But otherwise this is a powerful vocal picture of a man destined to die when at last he finds a breath of happiness.

Giacomo Aragall, who has had his periods of neglect by the record companies, makes a lyrical Gabriele, a couple of strangled notes apart. Paolo Coni is properly slimy and aggressive by turns as Paolo. But Kiri Te Kanawa as Verdi's other Amelia — Grimaldi — cannot match the purity of Freni, especially in the Act I aria, although Solti could not be more persuasive in the accompaniment. There is a lack of spontaneity: too many notes come cautiously. In the last two acts Te Kanawa sounds much freer and drawn into the web of a complex opera. Paata Burchuladze's Fiesco is poor, lacking all sense of the quarter century which passes between the Prologue (where his big chance occurs) and the rest of the work. Despite all Solti's considerable efforts, Abbado and his well rehearsed team remain the kings of Genoa.

Father of the blues

JAZZ
Clive Davis

Von Freeman Serenade & Blues (Chief CD3)
Chico Freeman/Arthur Blythe Luminous (Jazz House JHR010)

Admirers of Chicago's neglected tenor man, Von Freeman, will know that *Serenade & Blues* hardly counts as a brand-new release. But with his recordings so thin on the ground, even a compact disc reissue — in this case of a 1975 studio session — is worth noting.

Now 67, Freeman has attracted barely a fraction of the publicity heaped on his son, Chico. A muscular blues player (and an early associate of Sun Ra), he helped lay the foundations of the distinctive Chicago tenor sound. Yet he was for many years unknown outside his native city, making his first album under his own name when he was well into middle age.

Originally produced for the Chicago-based Nessa label, *Serenade & Blues* finds Freeman alongside a loose-limbed rhythm section consisting of pianist John Young, bassist David Shipp and drummer Wilbur Campbell. It is a blood-and-guts performance, Freeman wading in to "Serenade In Blue" as if trying to rouse a late-night club audience.

Jule Styne and Sammy Cahn's "Time After Time" receives similar treatment, while "Von Freeman's Blues" speaks for itself. "I'll Close My Eyes" provides a bonus track, not previously available on the LP edition. While the 1977 set *Young And Foolish* may be the best introduction to Freeman's work, this album is a useful addition.

Regular visitors to Ronnie Scott's will remember last year's set by Freeman *père et fils*, in which the veteran gave his son a 27-year head-start and still managed to come out on top. A recording of that event would make compelling listening. In the meantime we have to be make do with Chico Freeman's latest release, a live date taped last February at Frith Street with a sextet co-led by alto player Arthur Blythe.

It was, to be honest, a residency which promised far more than it delivered. The four tracks on this album do little to alter that impression. Though drummer Victor Jones and percussionist Norman Headman generate a fair head of steam, the music rarely rises above the orthodox sub-Coltrane level, John Hicks reeling out his most facile McCoy Tyner phrases to no great effect.

JAZZ UPDATE

Hoagy Carmichael *Stardust, And Much More* (Bluebird ND88333)
The lovingly assembled *Bluebird* compilations are becoming essential listening. This delightful collection is no exception, spanning Carmichael's vintage years with his own band and the Paul Whiteman Orchestra.

ROCK UPDATE

Duran Duran Decade (EMI DDX 10)
Unusually strong "Greatest Hits" anthology comprising most of the group's singles — from 1981's "Planet Earth" to last year's "All She Wants Is". Every track here, except "Skin Trade", was a Top 20 hit. Some of the early productions now sound a bit thin, and the cover is horrible, but their music stands as a stylish if superficial pop summary of the acquisitive Eighties.

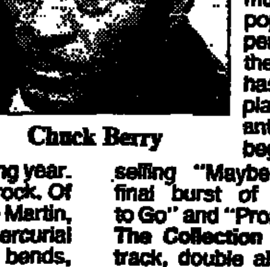
Kylie Minogue Enjoy Yourself (PWL HF9)
Relentlessly fizzy, pre-fab pop from the jewel in Stock Aitken and Waterman's crown. Unquestionably attractive stocking filler.

A-Z GUIDE TO ROCK

Part 5 of **David Sinclair's** collectors' A-Z, a guide to the essential albums of the most enduring performers of rock. To qualify for inclusion in this series, an act must have sustained a recording career of at least 10 years, and have mustered at least one decent album. The entries are designed to be pasted on to index cards and stored in a 6in by 4in filing box, to form an instant guide to the hits and misses of rock history.

JEFF BECK

One of the original Holy Trinity of British guitarists, Jeff Beck has enjoyed only a fraction of the acclaim heaped on his contemporaries, Eric Clapton and Jimmy Page. Yet of the three, Beck's back catalogue is the most challenging and rewarding. After he left the Yardbirds in 1966, he formed the Jeff Beck Group with Rod Stewart and Ron Wood. Their 1968 début, **Truth**, was a brutish, innovative, heavy rock affair that significantly influenced the first Led Zeppelin album, released the following year. Beck moved on to the new frontiers of jazz-rock. Of two instrumental albums produced by George Martin, **Wired** (1976) best showcased his savage, mercurial style — a combination of jarring unlikely bends, neurotic twists of feedback, and melodic, bluesy chops delivered like a rabbit punch to the neck. The apogee of Beck's fusion era was **There and Back** (1980). Joined by Jan Hammer (keyboards) and Simon Phillips (drums), Beck welded melody, technique and bloody-minded aggression into a blitzkrieg of pure, dazzling genius.



Chuck Berry

CHUCK BERRY

Chuck Berry's exuberantly poetic facility for chronicling the joys and frustrations of teenage life in the Fifties while neatly drawing together the musical strands of R'n'B, country and pop, made him one of the handful of performers who were instrumental in the invention of rock'n'roll. Although he has released more than 20 albums, his place in the history books was guaranteed by a glorious run of singles, beginning in 1955 with the million-selling "Maybellene" and petering out after a final burst of glory with "No Particular Place to Go" and "Promised Land" in 1964. **Chuck Berry — The Collection** (Castle Communications) is a 24-track, double album featuring a sensible selection of the songs you would expect to find on a best of Chuck Berry compilation. For completists, **The Chess Box** (MCA) is a recently released, six-album boxed set which, with a staggering 71 tracks (for £33 RRP), provides the most comprehensive retrospective of this extraordinary man's career.

NEXT WEEK: David Bowie, James Brown

Christmas Gift Guide
Continued from page 38

CHRISTMAS FARE

SMOKED SCOTTISH SALMON
Variety of Packs e.g. 8oz SL £7.95 : 1¼ SL £16.50
2lb SL £24.95 : Mahogany Boards.
8oz Salmon + ½ Bottle Champagne £19.95
HAMPERS & GIFTS from £4.95 - £200
LBV PORT & STILTON £20.95
Smoked Venison : Truffle Chocs, etc.
Access/Visa Free Brochure Available
Clearwater Products (T)
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Give your chocolate lovers a treat for Christmas - gift wrapped boxes of chocolate dragees, nuts or fruits. Boxes from £1.00 each available singly or in quantity. Gift wrapping, personal labelling and/or mailing service available. For personal or company use. Ideal for company gift promotions. Please telephone for colour brochure.
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PORT & STILTON £23.25. Smoked Salmon & Muscadet £28.16. Belgian Chocs & Champagne £30.40. Xmas cake, Pud & Wine £23.60. Medium Xmas Hamper £36.68. Yuletide Large Hamper £93.18. Brochure from Hay Hampers, Corby Glen, Lincs. NG33 4NH. Tel (047684) 420/548 (24 hrs). Fax: (047684) 777.

SMOKED Scottish Wild Salmon: Sliced 1LB Vac. Packs £11.00 Whole Sides 2-2¼LBS £18.00 2¼-2¾LBS £19.60. By 1st Class Post Paid. Christmas Orders by 11th December. G.M.S & Co P.O. Box 80, Hartfield, E. Sussex. TN7 4HU. (0342) 823816.

SMOKED Scottish wild salmon, world famed, Gift packed and vacuumed, thinly sliced by 1st class post paid. 8 oz £8.50. 1lb £15.50. 1½ lb £22.60. 2lb £29.50. Sides approx 2lb £19.40. Christmas orders by 12th Dec. Ritchies of Rothesay Dept 10, Rothesay, Scotland PA20. 9AD.

SMOKED SCOTTISH Salmon. The very best quality. 1lb sliced vac-pac £12.95 p&p. 1½lb sliced side £16.68 p&p. 2½lb sliced side £25.95 p&p. Lochengower, Tongland Farm, Kirkcudbright DG6 4LU. (0557) 30361 Access/Visa.

SPECIAL Christmas hampers from Shropshire filled with sumptuous home-made delicacies using Shropshire produce plus fine wines, local cheeses, hams, game & salmon. Brochure from Hampers, Hampers, Hampers & Hampers of Bishops Castle, Moat Hse.2 Welsh St, Bishops Castle, Shropshire, SY9 5BT. (0588) 638317.

SUPERB Chocolates and Hampers. Send for free colour brochure! Ye Olde Chocolate Box, Prestbury, Cheshire, SK10 4DG. Tel. (0625) 829848.

WILD Scottish salmon, oak smoked, sliced on boards; 1lb £14.48; 8 oz £7.40; sides £9.95 per lb. All inc 1st class P&P. Full list (smoked goose, smoked pheasant with Calvados, malt whisky etc). Heath of Scotland, Lockerbie DG11 1AT. Tel (038784) 239. Access/Visa.

Continued on page 43

COLLECTING

One man's meat...

A retailer in Malvern has found a gold mine in his attic, John Shaw writes

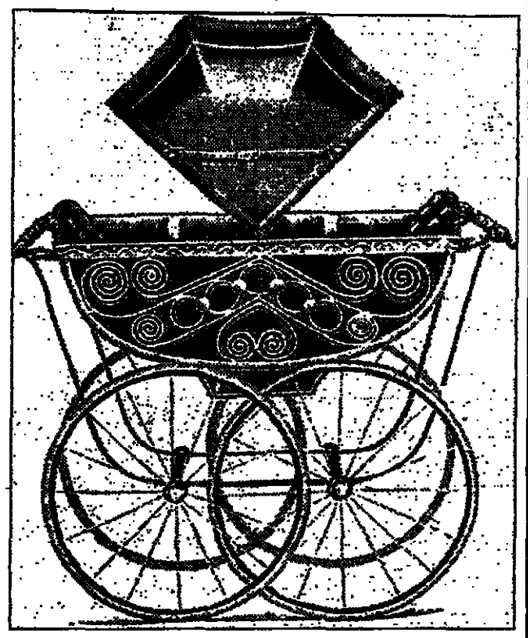
A collector's discovery in the attic is probably the closest thing we have to the Midas touch: the forgotten trivia of yesterday suddenly transformed into gold by the auctioneer's hammer. It can happen under the most unexpected circumstances, as John Hurrell found in April, when he bought an old shop requiring considerable modernization in Oxford Promenade, Malvern, Worcestershire.

Hurrell, a carpet retailer, was in the attic supervising rewiring work when he noticed scores of old catalogues scattered about the floor, covered in at least two inches of dust and dirt from the roof.

"*The top ones were filthy*, but those underneath were in pristine condition," he says. "Some hadn't even been taken out of their envelopes. I began to gather them together. It was a filthy job, but finally I found about 1,800."

He had discovered a social archive accumulated by accident by a tradesman called A. H. Robbins, a shopkeeper who styled himself "the people's ironmonger". His discarded catalogues covered all aspects of late Victorian and Edwardian domestic life, from 1895 to 1912.

Cars, bicycles, toys, tools, fire places, interior fittings, brass beds, garden furniture, sporting items and wire bird cages were dealt with — an echo of the days when Birmingham really was the workshop of the world.



1904 model: cane landau pram in assorted colours, 38/- each

Hurrell realized they might be of value, and took samples to Christie's and Sotheby's "who showed absolutely no interest".

But he persisted and called on a local bookseller. "He had a look and offered £1,300, but I told him that was laughable. He immediately increased his offer to £3,000, and that's when I realized I must have found something. Eventually I put them into Phillips."

Bob Bleasdale is a director of Phillips at Knowle near Solihull, an offshoot of the London sale room. He recognized what he was looking at: two years ago he had sold a group of 100 for about £16,000. "Here we had about 1,800 with duplicates and runs of catalogues that went from 1901-02-03, so you could see how things changed."

Bleasdale could see a variety of people buying them: collectors of things such as gramophones, who could see what they needed to acquire; county record offices; museums; and even the V&A. Everybody he thought of has expressed interest.

The archive has been divided into 250 lots with estimates between £50 to £400-£500, for sale at the Old House, Station Road, Knowle, on December 13.

SALESROOM

CORBETT'S CASTLE: A house contents sale opens at Rowallan Castle near Glasgow on Monday. Viewing on the premises today and tomorrow, 10am-4pm.
Phillips Scotland, 207 Bath Street, Glasgow (041 2218377). Sale: Mon 11am, Tues 10.30am.

DESIRABLE DOLLS: Dolls and a range of dolls' house furniture from the estate of a collector in Lavenham, Suffolk, are on offer in East Anglia. Viewing Tues 2pm-7pm.
Olivers, Burkett's Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk (0787 880305). Wed 10am.

DRESSMAKERS' DELIGHT: Textiles, costumes, linen, lace and bobbins will draw collectors and dressmakers to Bayswater.
Phillips West Two, 10 Salem Road, Bayswater, London W2 (01-229 9090). Wed 11am.

CORNUCOPIA: Ronnie Summerfield's hoard continues to yield surprises, with 1,200 lots of furniture in Cheltenham.
Bruton Knowles, Southam, Tithe Barn, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Tues, Wed and Thurs 10.30am.

FANTASIA: A wide range of fans on sale in South Kensington.
Christie's, South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7. Tues 2pm.

WESTERN WINE: Forty-four bottles of Ch. Mouton Rothschild from 1947 onwards, Latour (1890-1945), Lafite from 1872, Petrus 1947-48 and 1982 are on offer in Abergavenny.
J. Straker, Chadwick & Sons (0873 2624/5/6). Fri 5pm.

J.S.

MUSEUMS

As an old port's charm is saved, Simon Tait sees a museum at the hub of new building

History revives decaying dock

The charm of buildings in Swansea's old South Dock, which would have been demolished a decade ago, has won through. The port's maritime revival area has that much in common with Rye, Liverpool, Gloucester, Dundee, Chatham and long stretches of canal. The difference is that the Swansea warehouses *were* demolished, and the blocks of one-bedroom flats selling for yuppie prices are not conversions but re-creations.

"We and the pump house are the only original building here," says Dave Hoskin, the new curator of the Swansea Maritime and Industrial Museum. The dock had actually been filled in and it was going to be a roadway, but they had a rethink after the old Victoria station was turned into the leisure centre just behind us."

Instead of demolishing the Coast Lines general cargo warehouse with the rest, the city council put a museum in it, and the museum became the benchmark and focal point for the ensuing huge development.

The warehouse, built about 1900, was bought in 1975 and officially opened two years later. In Museums Year it has been an archetypal success story of a local authority museum. It started from scratch, relying on local people to provide collections, and becoming the most popular museum in Wales after the National Museum and its branches. With free admission it had 40,000 visitors in 1979 and 52,000 in 1982, when the marina opened. The total rose to 103,000 in 1983 and 225,000 last year. This year it will edge closer to the probable 300,000 optimum.

It is in three sections — the main warehouse, the historic vessels section, and the Tramshed, opened in Museums Year to celebrate the world's first passenger train line, the Mumbles Railway, and containing a restored 1920s Swansea tram. A pontoon moored outside the main museum houses the growing family of restored vessels — a lightship, a sailing trawler, a pilot cutter and the John and Naomi Beatty, a Museums Year project that came out of the blue.

"Someone came to our front desk, said they were going to burn this old lifeboat and asked if we would like to have a look before it went up in smoke," Hoskin says. "We quickly realized what we had got." The caller had the Aberystwyth-based lifeboat, which saw duty from 1900 to 1926. As a special project for the year it was worked on in public view to become the world's only fully restored pulling and sailing lifeboat. In August some ex-lifeboatmen sailed it around the coast to its old home and back again, as a tribute to its makers but particularly to its restorers, who included a blind man, Roger Hall.

It was the special project of Phil Bethell. Hoskin says: "We persuaded the city council that we needed an exhibitions and special projects officer for Museums Year to heighten our profile. We got Phil, who has been a tremendous success. We've got him for another year and we're hoping he'll be made permanent."

Bethell is using the warehouse's full floor area to extend the entertainment potential. "The 1950s garage is a good example," he says. "The aim is to display the items in the collection in a better context, and in a generally more interesting and evocative way."

A mechanic lies under the Morris 10, an older motor cycle is awaiting attention, and the garage itself is stacked with the oil cans, rags and spanners that characterize the workshop made obsolete by technology.

There are also Sol Solomon's tailor's shop brought from the city centre, and the Abbey Woollen Mills with its processes saved from destruction in the 1970s and transplanted from Neath Abbey with its original owner to install it and train up Dave Stephens, the present manager.

"We follow the whole process, using natural fibres," Stephens says. "We start with the raw fleece and take it to the finished product. There's a high demand, and though we can't produce on an industrial basis we pay for ourselves, and there's always somebody working here when the museum is open." This must make it one of the few man-operated plants still working seven days a week.

Swansea Museum is now seeking more items for a social history project involving the community. Here it follows its sister, the Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, one of the shortlisted museums in *The Times*/Shell Community Museum of the Year competition.

In one corner a professional theatre company has attracted full houses with its play about 19th-century Swansea children and their dreams of going to sea, based on archives and objects in the museum.

Sue Grundy has come from the British Museum to create a computerized reference system for the collection and its archives. "We're probably as advanced as any museum in the country, and way ahead of most," she says. "I can find reference material for *any relevant subject almost* immediately. This year the museum's particularly keyed up."

EXHIBITIONS

THE GRAND TOUR: A glorious romp through France and the rest of Europe, with the coloured prints and drawings of illustrator Graham Clarke.
Maidstone Library Gallery, St Faith's Street, Maidstone, Kent (0622 52344). Mon-Fri 9.30am-7pm, Sat 9.30am-5pm. *Free. From Mon until Dec 23.*

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS: An exhibition of the various traditional figures which embody the spirit of Christmas: St Nicholas, Santa Claus, the Scandinavian Christmas gnomes, the Christmas tree fairy, and others.
Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, London E2 (01-980 4315). Mon-Thurs, Sat 10am-8pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. *Free. From Wed* until Jan 14 1990.

Jenny Gilbert

PAST WORLDS

Search for the Maya

THE TIMES SWAN HELLENIC

Today's question is the *final* one in this week's competition to win a 20-day tour, worth £6,000, exploring the sites of Ancient Mayan civilization.

This tour has been designed by Swan Hellenic to coincide with the publication of the final part of *The Times Atlas of Ancient Civilizations*. The trip departs on March 7, 1990 and returns on March 26.

Complete the coupon on this page and send to the address given. The winner will be the first all-correct entry drawn after the closing date, Friday, December 8. Postal entries only will be accepted.

Employees of News International, Swan Hellenic and their agents may not enter.

No correspondence will be entered into. The Editor's decision is final.

● A full list of answers and winners will be published on Saturday, December 16.

PAST WORLDS

QUESTION 6

Jaguar-skin spats, tied with ribbons and worn without shoes, were wear for the well-dressed aristocrat in what tribe?

PAST WORLDS ANSWERS/THE AMERICAS

QUESTION ONE_____

QUESTION TWO_____

QUESTION THREE_____

QUESTION FOUR_____

QUESTION FIVE_____

QUESTION SIX_____

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

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Send completed coupon to:
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Christmas Gift Guide

CHRISTMAS FARE

Continued From Facing Page

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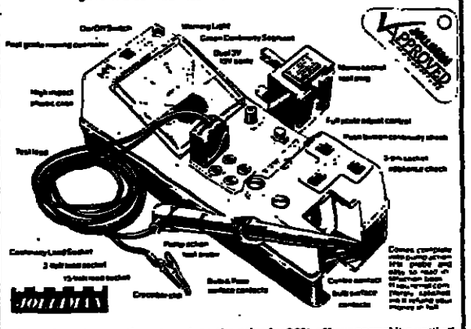
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Continued on page 45

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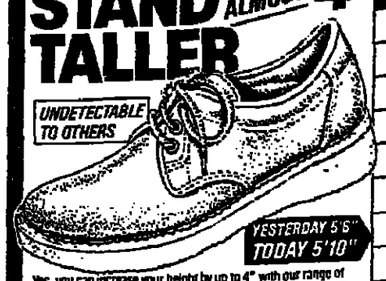

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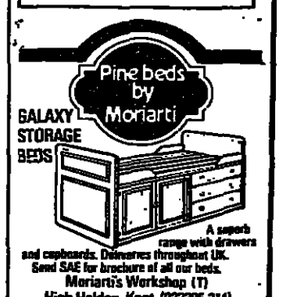

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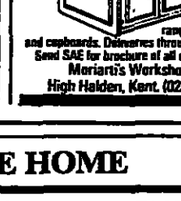

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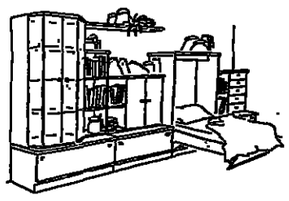

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SHOPPING

Raise your glasses to good taste

From cheap tumblers to sparkling crystal, Nicole Swengley discovers glassware that adds style to parties

With the party season starting to swing, it's timely to consider investing in a set of stylish glasses. At larger parties, with their potential for breakages, it is best to serve drinks in basic, no-nonsense glasses such as the Habitat Paris goblets, £1.99 for a pack of six, or tumblers, £8.99 for 18. Alternatively, three "Bibendum" white wine glasses cost £3.10 and three red wine glasses, £3.50.

For special occasions, crystal and inspirational glassware comes into its own. Rosenthal Studio House, 102 Brompton Road, London SW3 (01-584 0683), offers some of the most glamorous glasses, including extravagant, long-stemmed champagne solitaires. These start at £31.05 for the elegant "Snail" and range up to a hand-trembling £111 for the blue-based "Spalier". The flamboyant "Capriole" flute, £56.80, and "Helix" £89.20, are also ideal.

Equally artistic, but more practical, is the "Maître 13/66" series of "culinary" glassware designed by Michael Boehm, while "Polygon" is a range of mouth-blown glassware with an elegance underlined by its rhythmic design. White wine glasses cost £32.15 ("Maître") and £24.50 ("Polygon"), and sherry glasses £22.50 and £22.90 respectively.

Harrods, London SW1 (01-730 1234), offers a sparkling selection of cut and plain crystal, including Baccarat's acclaimed designs and Riedel's practical ranges. Riedel's "Admiration", a chunky, faceted, short-stemmed design, starts at £16.50 for a sherry glass; Baccarat offers a pleasing, sturdy-to-hold classic cocktail glass at £29.

British crystal is well represented at Harrods by Waterford, Royal Brierley, Thomas Webb, Tudor, Stuart, Cumbria, Caithness and Edinburgh. Cumbria's "Grasmere" old-fashioned whisky tumbler costs £28, Webb's "St Andrews" tall hock glass £19.95, and Brierley's "Honeysuckle" sherry glass £13.50.

New for the party season are Daum's "Cactus" glasses, at £115 each, which are surprisingly comfortable to hold despite glass branches protruding from the sides.

Dartington's reputation for classic lines is visible in the latest series, "Rachel" and "Crocus". The latter curves inwards at the top, like the flower. Prices start at £15 for a pair of sherry glasses.

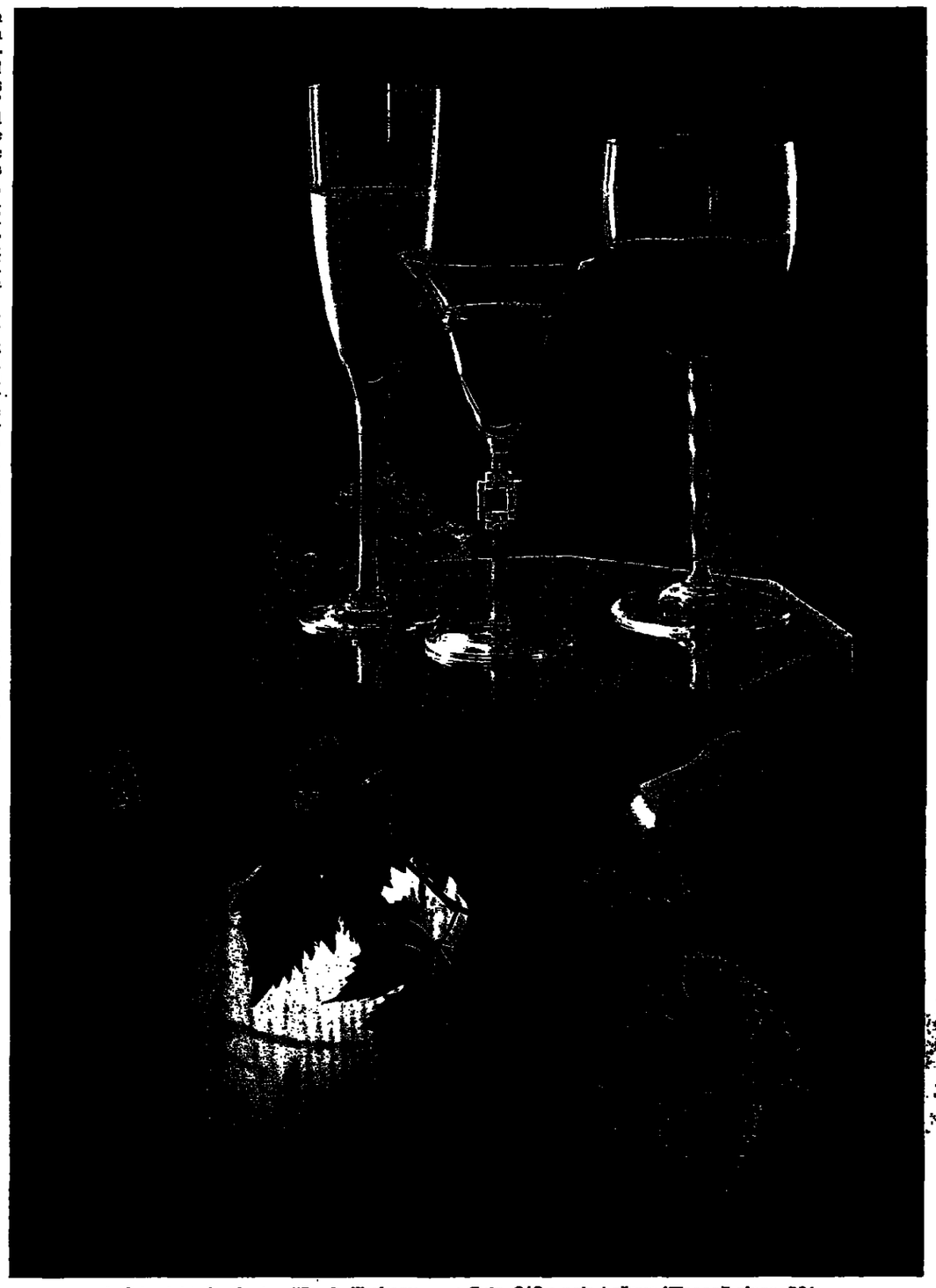
Still in Knightsbridge, Harvey Nichols (01-235 5000), stocks the graceful Crystal Sèvres range, including "Watteau", £22 for a white wine glass with an art deco-style frilled stem, the "Regency Garland", £13.95 for a white wine glass with a fine, celebratory engraving.

One of London's largest glass rooms is Thomas Goode's, at 19 South Audley Street, W1 (01-499 2823). Among its huge selection is the Venetian Murano glass by Cenedese, with blue-tinged, art deco-style glasses costing £90 and flutes £95. Less pricey are Lobeyr's "Patrician" glasses, designed in the Twenties by Joseph Hoffmann, at £29 for a white wine glass. Emma Bridgwater's hand-engraved lead crystal with its distinctive grape pattern costs £27.90 for a large wine glass.

For its attractive Baccarat selection, including an exclusive cut wine glass, £133, Garrard, at 112 Regent Street, London SW1 (01-734 7020), is well worth visiting. A new range of hand-enamelled glassware with coloured festive designs, from £125, is also exclusive to Garrard's. St Louis engraved crystal, a selection of Lalique and the more practical Swedish Orrefors range, which starts at £16 for a tumbler, can be bought here. Lalique's crystal always deserves special attention. New for this year is the baroque-inspired "Bellini" stemware with its swags and pearl shapes adorning the stems (£48 for a red wine glass). Equally decorative is the series called "Tosca", designed by René Lalique in 1924 when it was named "Haguenean", and the "Bourgueil" glasses with their art deco geometric motif, created by Lalique in 1932 (£28 for a "Bourgueil" liqueur glass).

True to the Lalique tradition, the "Champs de Mars" decanter, £234, and matching port glass, £55, employ a discreet frosted pearl garland on the glass stem and decanter belly. Each Lalique range comes with its own decanter or jug and is available from Lalique, 24 Mount Street, London W1 (01-499 8228).

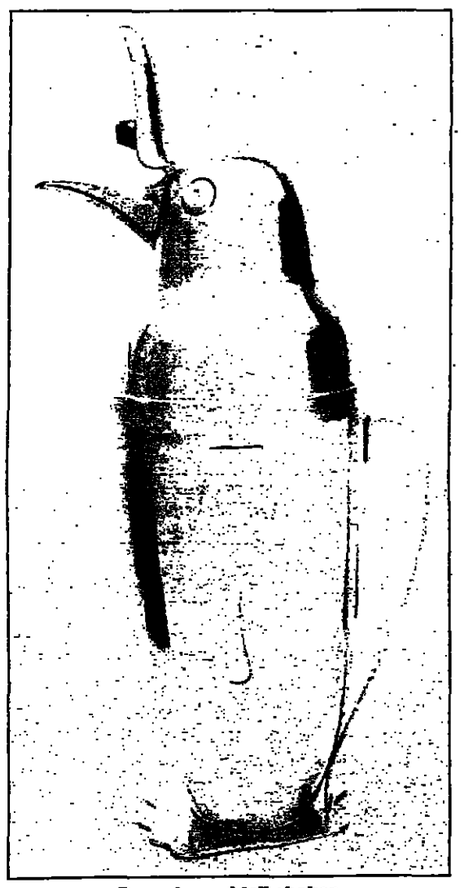
Anyone who wants to send glass as a gift should contact Mulberry Hall, Stonegate, York YO1 2AW (0904 620736), which will dispatch gift-wrapped stemware direct to recipients with a gift-card message. The company stocks all the Lalique glasses mentioned above and the complete Baccarat range. Stuart Crystal's "York" pattern is exclusive to the shop, with prices starting at £72.50, plus p&p, for a boxed set of four sherry glasses. Further details from Mulberry Hall.



Left to right: Dartington "Rachel" champagne flute, £18 a pair; Lalique "Tosca" glass, £61. Rosenthal Studio House "Polygon" wine glass, £24.50. Photograph by Sue Atkinson

The home bartender's guide to gadgets that make pouring a pleasure

Soda syphon, £35, Conran Shop



Penguin cocktail shaker, £360, Conran Shop

Bullet cocktail shaker, £44.95, Troika

Alessi Campari cocktail shaker, £50.95, Authentics

Bars have moved back into the home, and the bartender's paraphernalia has become big business. Gadgetry galore is the name of the game and the more recherché the better. Why use a conventional cocktail shaker when you can mix drinks in a glossy, bullet-shaped model, £44.95 from Troika, or a sassy circular Alessi shaker, £89.50 from Authentics?

Alessi, which favours Italian style, has entered into the spirit of the bar bonanza with a gleaming array of strainers, tongs, stirrers, ice-buckets and drinks trays. You can get them from Oggetti, Authentics and Maison. One of Alessi's three cocktail shakers is specially made for mixing Campari drinks.

Head for Harrods if you fancy the glitz of a top hat-shaped ice-bucket, £35, or a golf ball lookalike can-opener, £21. Harrods also has a tasteful bar set comprising bottle opener, corkscrew and ice-tongs with green marbled handles at £22.

Slip into the Conran Shop for a shapely silver-plated sangria jug, £42.50, or a criss-cross meshed soda siphon, £35. Making a visual point about coolness, the Penguin-style cocktail shaker, £360, cries out to be picked up and poured.

For people who prefer their mixed drinks blended with the serious shake, rattle 'n' roll of the professional barman, Astrohome offers industrial bar equipment such as the Lomi chrome drinks mixer, £295, a heavy-duty liquidizer, £58.95, and a professional juice press, £39.95.

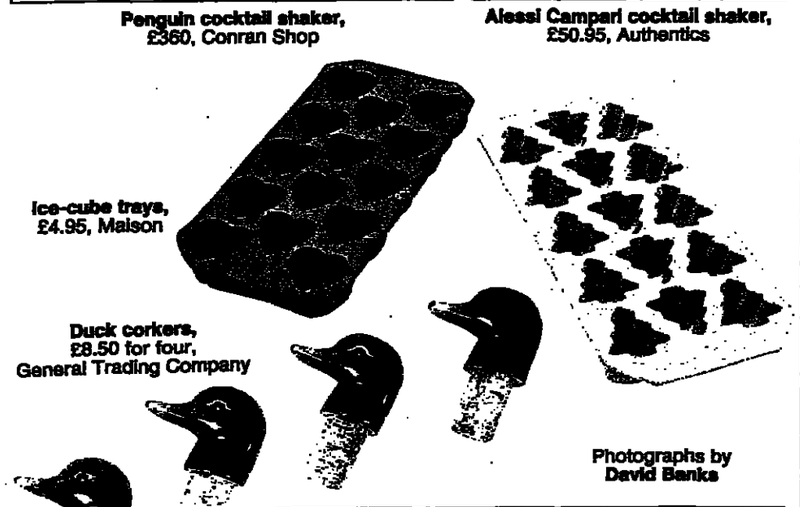
Those who prefer a lighter touch will find it hard to resist a shooting range of duck-head corkers, £8.50 for a set of four, from the General Trading Company, which also sells a useful Fizz Keeper, £2.60, a champagne stopper, £2.70, and ICTC wine fresh, £7.95. House of Fraser stores also stock fancy corks with stags, bagpipers and golfers atop.

Ice cubes can conjure up a chuckle when ejected with ease from Maison's brightly coloured rubber trays, £4.95, in the shape of hearts, fir trees and pineapples. And since there could be many a slip twixt cup and lip, Nick Munro's imaginative, curly chrome coasters, £14.50, from Liberty and Maison may prove their worth. Glass swizzle sticks with coloured, fruity heads, £2.50 each from Liberty, will keep the bubbles fizzing, and Christmas Scrooges can keep a check on their festive spirit with Troika's barrel-shaped bottle lock, £9.50, complete with padlock and key.

The Bohemian Bar Set, £65 from Troika, could be the answer for anyone who prefers to keep their bar accessories neatly stored but stylishly on show. The chrome triangular holder is designed to carry a matt-black cocktail shaker, tongs, spirit measure, strainer, mixer and knife.

Less contemporary-looking equipment flows from Richard Kihl's wine accessory shop, which stocks vintage corkscrews at around £150, Victorian decanters from £95, and gold-plated funnels, £172.

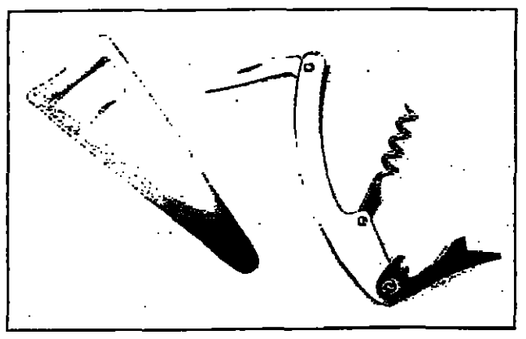
If you are looking for a novel way to freeze a festive Christmas moment for posterity, there's a silver-plated champagne cork engraved with the date (25 . 12 . 89), £19.95, including p&p, from McGuire Marketing (credit card orders, 01-964 0129). Best of taste? Maybe not, but certainly memorable.



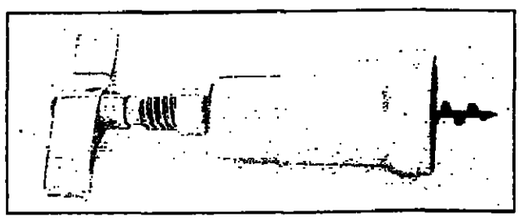
Ice-cube trays, £4.95, Maison

Duck corkers, £8.50 for four, General Trading Company

Photographs by David Banks



Bottle and can-openers, £5.95 each, Authentics



Brass corkscrew, £15.95, Troika

ADDRESS BOOK:
Astrohome, 47-49 Neal Street, London WC2 (01-379 0555)
Authentics, 42 Shelton Street, London WC2 (01-240 9845)
Conran Shop, 81 Fulham Road, London SW3 (01-589 7401)
Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1 (01-730 1234)
Liberty, Regent Street, London W1 (01-734 1234)
Maison, 917-919 Fulham Road, London SW6 (01-736 3121)
Oggetti, 100 Jermyn Street, London SW1 (01-930 4894)
Richard Kihl, 184 Regent's Park Road, NW1 (01-586 3838)
Troika, 62 New King's Road, London SW6 (01-736 2401)

Continued from page 43

Christmas Gift Guide

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SPOKEN FRENCH for children aged 4-12. Book and cassette (£9.9). Authentic French speakers. £6.99 inc P&P. Languages for Children, 10 Glen Ebor Park, Belfast BT4 2JJ.

THE WEEK AHEAD

GALLERIES

DAVID LEE

Eric Gill: Manchester Cathedral

THE WORK OF ANGELS: Masterpieces of Celtic metalwork, including brooches, chalices and reliquaries, from the sixth to ninth centuries AD.
British Museum, London WC1 (01-636 1555). From Wed.

BARCLAY'S YOUNG PAINTER 1989: Works by the finalists for an annual award of 10,000; previous winners include Madeleine Strindberg.
Royal College of Art, London SW7 (01-584 5020). Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, free. Until Dec 9.

JOHN PIPER: Collection of 10 new paintings of the artist's garden.
Waddington Galleries, London W1 (01-437 8611). From Wed.

THE OTHER STORY: A show celebrating the contribution made to post-war British art by 24 artists of African, Asian and Caribbean descent.
Hayward Gallery, London SE1 (01-261 0127). From Wed.

The artist and typographer Eric Gill (1882-1940) didn't much care for art writing. To his way of thinking, too much of it tried to make its subject esoteric while turning the artist into some sort of performing wizard or magician. "Let art take care of itself as it very well can," Gill said on more than one occasion. His own sculpture is an unpretentious, Modern combination of high craft and sensuality that makes his work appear at once spiritual and slightly dangerous. He loved nothing more than to shock the docile middle-classes with such pieces as "Prospero and Ariel", carved for the BBC building in Portland Place; like Epstein's winged sphynx on the tomb of Oscar Wilde, the figure of Ariel required emasculation because the genitals were thought to be too prominent.

A new exhibition of Eric Gill's drawings, prints and sculptures entitled *Body and Soul*, the first show to be staged since the revelations about Gill's incestuous private life surfaced in Fiona MacCarthy's recent biography of the artist, opens today at Manchester City Art Gallery (061-236 9422).

CINEMA

GEOFF BROWN

WHEN HARRY MET SALLY (15): Engaging romantic comedy, with Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan as professional Manhattanites who gradually fall for each other. Written by Nora Ephron, directed by Rob Reiner.
Odeon Haymarket (01-839 7697). From Fri.

GHOSTBUSTERS II (PG): More absurd adventures with the paranormal investigators, combatting a devilish pink slime.
Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111). From Fri.

DEEPSTAR SIX (15): An enraged sea monster attacks a deep-sea research team. Directed by Sean (*Friday the 13th*) Cunningham; with Nancy Everhard, Greg Evigan.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-630 0310). From Fri.

Out of his pram: Ian Sellar's Scottish debut feature film, *Venus Peter*

If you want a sober life, avoid baptism in sea-water. The lesson is plain from *Venus Peter*, a refreshing first feature directed by Ian Sellar, which first won friends when it flew the Union Jack at this year's Cannes Film Festival. Peter, the film's hero, is doused in sea-water after the water in the church's font proves frozen; there follows a childhood governed by a fierce love of the sea and his fisherman grandfather, plus and a wild imagination. The Orkney Islands supply breathtaking locations and £60,000 worth of funding, plus the engaging lead performer, Gordon Strachan, a nine-year-old from Stromness Primary School, chosen after a search involving over a 1,000 auditions. Thorough pros surround him: Ray McAnally as the grandfather, Sinead Cusack as the teacher who helps kindles his love of poetry, and a fabricated whale of wood and rubber, 60 feet long. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). From Friday, certificate 12.

ZOE DOMINIC

Wife plays son: Ann Murray as Idamante and Philip Langridge in the title role of Mozart's tragic opera *Idomeneo* at Covent Garden

OPERA

HILARY FINCH

Wife plays son on Monday as Ann Murray acts opposite her husband, Philip Langridge, in the Royal Opera's new production of *Idomeneo*. Murray and Langridge, who first met at the 1975 Wexford festival in Cavalli's *L'Eritrea*, have subsequently appeared together in *Alcina* at Aix and *Beatrice and Benedict* at Buxton (they return to Berlioz's opera in a new production at English National Opera in January). For this performance, Murray takes the role of Idamante, the long lost son of Idomeneo. Langridge has grown into the part of tragic King of Crete throughout his series of outstanding performances at Glyndebourne and in Simon Rattle's renowned concert performance at the South Bank with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.

They are joined by Sylvia MacNair, making her Royal Opera debut as Idamante's beloved Ilia; and by Elizabeth Connell as Electra. (Covent Garden audiences will remember her as another Mozartian scarlet woman, Vitellia). The ballet Mozart wrote for the first performance will be presented at the end of the opera, choreographed by Kay Lawrence. Jeffrey Tate conducts; Johannes Schaaf directs in his continuing Mozart cycle.
Covent Garden, WC2, (01-240 1066), 7-10.30pm, £2.50-£82. Mon and Thurs, then Dec 4, 6, 9, 12, 16.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Tonight, Thurs and Sat, Dec 2, 7pm: David Freeman's outstanding production of Monteverdi's *The Return of Ulysses* with Anthony Rolfe Johnson in the title role. Wed and Fri (7.30pm): *Madam Butterfly*.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Mozart's great classical tragedy *Idomeneo*, in a new production by Johannes Schaaf. Jeffrey Tate conducts cast led by Philip Langridge, Ann Murray and Elizabeth Connell. Mon and Thurs at 7pm.
Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

DANCE

NORTHERN BALLET: Premieres of Ronald Hynd's *Liaisons Amoureuses* to Offenbach music, Gillian Lynne's *Lipizzaner*, starring Trinidad Sevilliano and Patrick Armand with Christopher Gable to a score by Carl Davis, and *Strange Meeting* by Michael Pink based on a poem by Wilfred Owen.
Palace, Manchester (061-236 9922). Tues-Dec 2.

ROYAL BALLET: *Swan Lake* this afternoon and evening, and Fri; mixed bill including *My Brother, My Sisters*, Wed.
Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET: A new work by Christopher Bruce to Stravinsky's Symphony in Three Movements premieres Mon and Tues with *Etudes* and *Anastasia*; today and Wed-Dec 2, *The Nutcracker*.
Bristol Hippodrome (0272-299444).

JAZZ

LONDON CONTEMPORARY: Dan Wagoner's new *Turtles All The Way Down* and Jonathan Lunn's *Doppelgänger* today; then premieres (Tues-Dec 2) of Wagoner's *To Comfort Ghosts*, Lunn's *Goes Without Saying*, and Kim Brandstrup's *Orfeo*.
Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

JOHN ZORN: Flavour of the year, if not the month, the anarchic New York altoist embarks on a Contemporary Music Network tour with his Naked City ensemble.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SE1 (01-928 8800), Tues; University of Warwick Arts Centre (0203 417417), Wed; Albert Hall, Nottingham (0602 419419), Thurs; Dunelm House, Durham (info 091 384 3720/374 3210), Fri; Chapter Arts, Cardiff (0222 399666), Sat Dec 2.

CONCERTS

NEW EMBLEMS: Robert Taub, an exceptional pianist, gives the world premiere of *Ars Emblematica* by the major American composer Milton Babbitt. Plus Beethoven, Chopin, Scriabin.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 3pm.

PODARIL PERFORMANCES: The ECO is conducted by Aléš Podáril in Voříšek's D major Symphony, Dvořak's Romance Op 11 (Ivan Zenáty, violin), Dvořak's Symphony No 8 and the UK première of Eben's *Notturno Praghese*.
Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Wed, 7.45pm.

KESSLER CONCERT: Susan Kessler (mezzo soprano) sings songs by Schubert, Schumann, Zumsteeg, Jensen, Franz Geddes. Roger Vignoles is at the piano.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Thurs, 7.30pm.

MOONLIGHT FISCHER: Annie Fischer plays Beethoven's Piano Sonatas Op 14 No 2 and 27 No 2 "Moonlight", Schumann's *Fantasiestücke* Op 12 and Fantasy Op 17.
Queen Elizabeth Hall. Fri, 7.45pm.

ROCK

STATUS QUO: Perennial boogie band whose recent singles have betrayed an increasingly fey pop sensibility.
Newport Centre (0633 269676), Thurs; Torbay Leisure Centre (0803 522240), Fri and Sat Dec 2.

ALEXANDER O'NEAL: Mighty Minneapolis soul man no longer confining his love to one-night stands.
Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01-902 1234). Fri, for eight nights.

THE GIPSY KINGS: Romantic Romany types with a buoyant mixture of acoustic guitar, fast, echoey handclaps and dramatic wailing vocals. Are they the first world music superstars?
Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01-902 1234). Wed and Thurs.

LYLE LOVETT: Texan New Country star and Eraserhead lookalike on a low-key tour with his redoubtable cellist, John Hagen, and one or two other members of his Large Band.
Conolly Hall, Cork (010353 21277466), tonight; Olympia, Dublin (0001 778962), tomorrow; St Davids Hall, Cardiff (0222 371236), Tues; London Palladium, W1 (01-437 7373), Wed.

BROADCASTING

LADY IN SCARLETT: Jill Neville talks to friends and relatives of Margaret Mitchell and asks how far the characters of her monumental best-seller, *Gone With the Wind*, were drawn from life.
Radio 4, Wed, 11.02-11.47pm.

BLACKEYES: Dennis Potter makes his debut as a director with a teasing, multi-layered adaptation of his novel about an exploited model.
BBC2, Wed, 9.25-10.20pm.

A LOVE IN GERMANY (1983): Film by the veteran Polish director Andrzej Wajda charting the illicit affair between a married German woman and a Polish prisoner during the Second World War.
Channel 4, Thurs, midnight-2am.

THEATRE

TONY PATRICK

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI: Bill Alexander directs Harriet Walter, Nigel Terry.
Swan, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623). Previews from Wed. Opens Dec 6.

BARNABY AND THE OLD BOYS: Keith Baxter, Jill Gascoine, directed by Toby Robertson in Baxter's Welsh comedy about a revelation by a home-coming local hero. From Theatr Clwyd.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (01-836 9987). Previews from Wed. Opens Dec 4.

OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD: Award-winning Timberlake Wertenbaker play.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 3464). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

PRIN: Sheila Hancock as the embattled education college head. With Susie Blake, Paul Copley.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3686). Previews Wed, Thurs. Opens Fri.

LADY BETTY: Cheek by Jowl in Declan Donnelan's first play, about a young Irish girl who becomes her town's first hang-woman.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1. (01-359 4404). Previews Tues, Wed. Opens Thurs.

John Barton, who directs Charles Dance in the title role of the new RSC production of *Coriolanus*, which previews in Stratford from Thursday, has directed the play twice before, but he says: "That was a long time ago. Looking at it this time, Terry Hands and I have found it much more political. This story of a noble Roman who is rejected by the once-grateful people and by his equals is very easy to push into modern parallels, but it is a timeless play about a classic political situation and the power of the patricians and the people.

"Coriolanus is indispensable yet impossible. Every character has a measure of right and a measure of stupidity or wrong-headedness about his actions. Both sides believe they are right but do destructive things. It is, finally, a very human situation, not a political tract or a morality play." Dance, back wih the RSC for the first time since 1979, (as Tullius Aufidius in the same play, *Coriolanus*), is joined by Joseph O'Conor, Barbara Jefford, Joe Melia, Malcolm Storry and Geoffrey Freshwater.

Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 295623). Previews from Thursday. Opens December 5.

Indispensable, yet impossible: Charles Dance as Coriolanus at the RSC

PHOTOGRAPHY

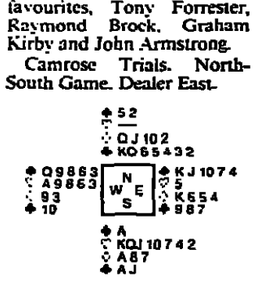
TEN DAYS IN TIANANMEN: The events leading up to and surrounding the massacre at Tiananmen Square in China by photojournalist Bob Gannon.
Side Gallery, 9 Side, Newcastle. (091 232 2000).

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: An exploration of British photography from 1945 to 1989. Many classics on show from the likes of Bill Brandt, as well as some work from little-known outsiders. Originally on show at the Barbican in London, this show should not be missed.
Manchester City Art Gallery, Princess St, Manchester.

BRIDGE

The first stage of the trials to select the English team for the Camrose series, the home internationals, provided the usual mixture of fine and farcical bridge. This hand was the main talking point of the event, which was won by the favourites, Tony Forrester, Raymond Brock, Graham Kirby and John Armstrong.

Camrose Trials. North-South Game. Dealer East.



When Sally Horton and Steve Lodge held the North-South cards, this was the bidding:

W	N	E	S
	Horton		Lodge
—	—	2♠(1)	4♡
4♠	No	No	Dbl(2)
No	5♣	No	5♡(3)
No	No(4)	No	—

(1) A weak two bid
(2) Showing a strong hand
(3) A cue bid, trying for slam in hearts or clubs, but . . .
(4) . . . not so interpreted by Sally Horton, and who could blame her?

West foolishly led the Ace of hearts, so Lodge was able to ruff in dummy, draw three rounds of trumps and play his winners. East could ruff when he liked, but that was the last trick for the defence; 620 to North-South.

It was suggested that a spade lead would have been more effective, but declarer can still succeed. The hand is a fascinating exercise in trump control.

The Ace of spades is followed by a diamond to the Queen. If East ducks, South can take two more rounds of diamonds and play clubs, losing just a trump and a spade. So East must take the King of diamonds. Now a spade return can be ruffed with the Ace, two more trumps are drawn and the run of the clubs allows East to make only his fourth diamond. A heart return to the King and Ace is no better. Dummy ruffs, one high trump is played and the clubs are run. When East ruffs, South overruffs and plays a high heart, throwing a spade from dummy. Once again the defence has to be content with just two trump tricks.

Making five diamonds was enough for a handsome gain for Lodge's team. At the other table North-South careered into seven hearts. West was certainly on sound ground when he doubled, and had he led a spade the penalty would have been 800.

On the same hand in another match the Forrester team registered a bizarre gain. Against Forrester and Brock, North-South bid competently enough to six hearts, which was unluckily defeated by the vile trump break. At the other table the auction was:

W	N	E	S
	Kirby		Armstrong
—	—	No	1♠(1)
1♥(2)	2♣	No	3♡(3)
Dbl(4)	No	3♠	4♡
4♠	Dbl	No	No
No	—	—	—

(1) Precision Club, showing a strong hand
(2) Showing major suits or minor suits
(3) A solid suit, possibly missing the Ace
(4) Implying major suits

West's intrepid bidding convinced North-South that they should not look for a slam. Six clubs is makeable, and seven clubs is beaten only by a spade lead, so 300 from four spades doubled seemed poor compensation until it was compared with plus 100 from the other table for a gain of nine International Match Points.

The two auctions I have shown so far may strike you as poor by international standards. Freak distributional hands are difficult at the best of times, especially when opponents intervene with pre-emptive or conventional bids. This Irish jig on the same hand emphasizes the point:

W	N	E	S
—	—	2♡(1)	Dbl(2)
2♡(3)	3♠(4)	No	3♡(5)
3♠	5♣	No	5♠
No	7♠	No	No
Dbl(6)	Redbl	No	No
7♡(7)	Dbl	7♠	Dbl
No	No	No	—

(1) The Multicoloured two diamonds, showing weak two bid in a major or various strong hands
(2) A moderate balanced hand, or a very strong hand
(3) Not wishing to pre-empt fast East should hold the strong hand type
(4) Constructive, but not forcing
(5) A very strong hand with hearts
(6) Asking for a heart lead, even if it would have unluckily conceded a score of 2660 points
(7) An attack of cold feet, but prudent in view of (6)

Seven spades doubled cost 1100, which wouldn't be a tragedy if North-South at the other table could bid and make a small slam. They bid one, but alas, they could not make it, for their chosen trump suit was hearts. The auction, as you may have guessed, was far from simple, and West had doubled six hearts primarily to stop his partner from sacrificing in six spades. He scored 200 points for his trouble, and gained a massive 16 IMPs.

David Burn

CHESS

In 1972 the legendary Bobby Fischer established an all-time world chess rating of 2785. This was widely believed to be unassailable, yet at Tilburg in October, Kasparov pushed his own rating to an astounding 2793. This new record does not, however, officially stand until it is published by the World Chess Federation on January 1, 1990. Kasparov must have been tempted to go into monk-like seclusion after Tilburg in order to avoid spoiling his new record rating with an inferior subsequent result. Instead, true to his risk-loving character, the world champion has once again entered the lists in the very strong Belgrade tournament (category 15) which is currently in progress. As an indication, the field includes Nigel Short, Jan Timman, Artur Yusupov and Jan Ehlvest. The following win against the victor of the Barcelona World Cup, must have given Kasparov particular pleasure:

White: Ljubomir Ljubojevic; Black: Gary Kasparov. Sicilian Defence, Investbanka, '89 International Tournament, Belgrade, November 19.

1	e4	c5	2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4	4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	a6	6	Bg5	e6
7	f4	Qc7	8	Qe2	Nc6
9	0-0-0	Nxd4	10	Rxd4	Be7

White's next move is an attempt to improve on the game Ivanchuk-Kasparov, played at Tilburg in October, which had gone 11 e5 dxe5 12 fxe5 Nd5 13 Bxe7 Nxe7 14 Ne4 0-0 with a satisfactory position for Black.

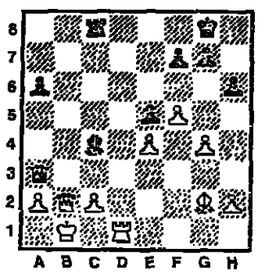
11	g3	Bd7	12	Bg2	h6
13	Bh4	Bc6	14	f5	0-0
15	Rhd1	b5	16	g4	e5
17	R4d3	b4	18	Bxf6	bxc3

Naturally, after the automatic recapture 18...Bxf6 19 Nd5 White would be in command. Instead, Kasparov carries the fight directly to his opponent's King even though this means sacrificing the pawn on d6.

19	Bxe7	cxb2+	20	Kb1	Qxe7
21	Rxd6	Rfc8	22	R1d2	Bb5
23	Qe3	Rab8	24	Rb6	Bc4

Ljubojevic's plan, having won the pawn on d6, is eventually to surround Black's pawn on b2 and effect simplications which will leave him with an advantageous endgame. Kasparov cuts across this plan by generating a direct attack against the White King.

25	Rd1	Rxb6	26	Qxb6	Qa3
27	Qxb2				



The culmination of White's strategy, but now Kasparov swoops with a combination which he must have planned well in advance.

27	—	Bxa2+	

If now 28 Qxa2 Rb8+ 29 Ka1 Qc3+ is decisive.

28	Ka1	Qa4	

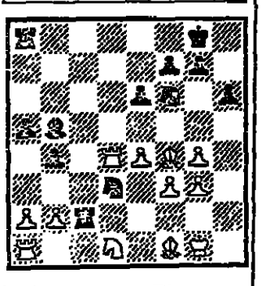
The final point of Black's combination. Ljubojevic doubtless believed that Black would have to exchange Queens when White can escape the worst. After the text, which exploits the exposed nature of White's Bishop on g2, Ljubojevic could have resigned.

29	Qxa2	Qxa2+	30	Kxa2	Rxc2+
31	Kb3	Rxg2	32	Kc4	Rxh2
33	Kd5	f6	34	g5	hxg5
35	Ke6	g4	36	Rd8+	Kh7
37	Kf7	Rh5			

White resigns

© Gary Kasparov will be in London next week participating in the INFOLINK European Speed Chess Championships at The Athenaeum on December 2 and 3. There may still be some places available to watch. Those interested in acquiring tickets should ring Gill Thomas (0825 790438) without delay.

WINNING MOVE



In the diagram, Black to play wins.

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times* Winning Move Competition, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a Times wallet-sized personal chess computer. The winning move will be printed in *The Times* next Saturday.

Solution to yesterday's position: White wins with 1 Bh4 h6 2 Qf6+ Nxf8 3 Bf6+ Kh7 4 Rg7+ Kh8 5 Rxf7+ Kg8 6 Nxh6 mate.

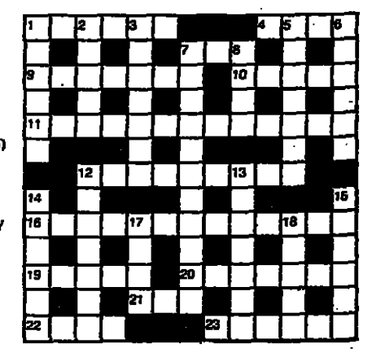
Solution to last Saturday's position: White wins with 1 Rg4+. This was a tougher position than usual. The point is that after 1...fxg4 2 Qg5+ Kh8 3 Qh6 Black cannot avoid mate.

The three winners of The Times personal chess computers are: Colin Coupland, Newby, Scarborough, North Yorkshire; Nigel Bolton, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire; A. Winfield, Yoxall, Burton-on-Trent.

Raymond Keene

CROSSWORD

CONCISE NO 2036



ACROSS

1 Irritate (6)
4 Coarse oaf (4)
7 Disgust exclamation (3)
9 Ten sided polygon (7)
10 Roman emblem (5)
11 Runner's foot pad (8,5)
12 To sickening degree (2,7)
16 Beyond Milky Way (13)
19 Tapered knit cap (5)
20 Sentinel (7)
21 Fitting (3)
22 Squirrel's nest (4)
23 Stylish (6)

DOWN

1 Edible red root (6)
2 Shop front board (5)
3 Mitigate (7)
5 Comfortable sitting space (7)
6 Scots trousers (6)
7 Intolerable (11)
8 Aromatic plant (4)
12 Ancient (7)
13 Captivate (7)
14 Impassioned (6)
15 Empty-headed (6)
17 In bed (4)
18 Plant spike (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 2035

ACROSS: 8 Chateau 9 Often 10 Ufa 11 Patchwork 12 Swear 14 Oppress 17 Skillet 19 Nasal 22 Discharge 24 Lev 25 Tyler 26 Evening

DOWN: 1 Schuss 2 Palate 3 Temporal 4 Just So Stories 5 Cobh 6 At home 7 Snakes 13 Wok 15 Pincenez 16 Ska 17 Sedate 18 Insult 20 Salvia 21 Lovage 23 Hart

The winners of prize concise No 2030 are: Mrs J. H. Williams, Stratford-upon-Avon; Mrs J. I. Wilder, Goring-on-Thames.

Prizes of the Collins Concise Dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, November 30. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, December 2.

SOLUTION TO NO 2030 (last Saturday's prize concise)

ACROSS: 1 Duress 4 Asks 7 Gag 9 Manager 10 Ilham 11 Song of Solomon 12 Acid house 16 Stiff upper lip 19 Creed 20 Exegete 21 Err 22 Eddy 23 Astern

DOWN: 1 Demise 2 Run in 3 Signori 5 Strumae 6 Simony 7 Grasshopper 8 Gill 12 Aniseed 13 Useless 14 Psyche 15 Spleen 17 Fade 18 Liege

Name .....

Address .....

THE TIMES

SPORT | TRAVEL & LEISURE

SECTION 4

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25 1989 47

● MIKE GATTING 48
● KRISTIN OTTO 50
● DAVID SOLE 51
● ZOLA BUDD 54

Electronic duelling with gloves on

Hickey: "Some see it as poofy but things move on."

Simon Barnes

Sword-fighting is a deadly practice. Duelling with swords is nothing to do with sport, nothing to do with play. Fencing is different: it brings all the skill and athletic ability of the sword-player, along with aggression, mental strength and moral and physical courage; yet no one gets killed save by freakish and terrible accident. Fencing, with its masks, padded clothing and buttoned weapons, is sport.

Boxing is, like sword-fighing, a form of duelling. Every bout is potentially deadly under normal — not simply freakish — circumstances: this is not a form of sport, not a form of play at all.

I have written as much often enough before, so I shall not move into full table-thumping, chest-prodding mode here. But with this track-record behind me, I was more than intrigued to learn of a newly-invented, hi-tech way of transforming boxing into a sport: a sport like fencing, in fact.

Fencing is electronic: hits are recorded with various magical bits of equipment. The same theory will be used for boxing, and it should be coming into operation with the Amateur Boxing Association in the New Year. It comprises a breast plate that both protects and records the thumps, and a helmet that does the same thing. It was developed by a Dorset schoolteacher called Richard Foley, with the support of the ABA.

This is not — or not yet, at least — anything to do with the organization's competitive structure. It is part of the expanding "recreational" side of amateur boxing. There are about 24,000 boxers registered with the ABA, and about 10 per cent of these are not interested in competing.

There is a proficiency system that takes in both the learning competitive boxers and the recreational boxers. It is called the Golden Gloves scheme, and it was put together under Kevin Hickey, who was senior national coach to the ABA for 20 years. (He is now technical advisory officer at the British Olympic Association).

The scheme has three levels, and with the new bits of magic, will have four. The green award is pure movement, the bronze award includes bag work, the silver award, controlled sparring. The gold award will involve electronic combat.

"The challenge of combat is there. The recreational side of boxing will grow, it will become more recognized, and more sophisticated," Hickey said. "Some see it as poofy, but things move on — bare fist fighting is seen as barbarity today.

"I was brought up to box in a pro gym when I was 13. I was taught by sparring with pros and getting seven bells knocked out of me. I remember going off to the showers and crying my eyes out. This is not healthy. That sort of thing does not happen everywhere — but a degree of it does. People tell you not to be poofy, it's a man's game, got to take some stick. Me, I think a coach has to have sensitivity, because of the nature of the sport. If you don't have that quality, you don't belong in the sport."

Hickey introduced a proficiency scheme for schoolboys in the 60s, but, as he says, things move on. Schools no longer box. The proficiency scheme still operates in the clubs, however, and the notion of electronic boxing is a logical development to all this.

There are still problems with it. It is simply not true that the helmet protects the boxer from damage to the brain. It stops him getting cut and marked, and has some cushioning effect against direct blows.

But it is not the action of fist against head that does the damage, it is the reaction: the impact of the brain on the inside of the skull. Helmets make the head a bigger target. A helmeted boxer can move his head sideways and still get caught by a glancing blow that, bare-headed, he might have dodged. He is doubly worse off: the width of the helmet increases the torsional effect of the blow.

The only way to make boxing safe is to take the head out of the target area altogether, but defending of the trunk alone would be so much easier than defending the entire upper body that it would be almost impossible to land a blow.

"That would kill boxing as a spectacle," Hickey said. "Though that might be a good thing, because professional boxing would disappear overnight."

Hickey is committed to amateur boxing, and that makes him an outspoken opponent of the professional "game". He would like to see the age at which boxers are permitted to turn pro raised from 18 to 21.

"You get to know these young boxers, you travel round the world with them, you get very close. And they turn pro, and they take punishment, and they change. Their personalities change, it is said, said is the only word. I speak subjectively; I haven't put these people through psychological or neurological tests. But I see this happening to people, see them change, and I find it sick."

Duelling has been banned in this country for a good few years. Boxing, and in particular, professional boxing, exists as a kind of a fossil, a memento of more barbaric times in which fist fights to the death before cheering, gambling audiences were a part of street life. In this fullness of time, boxing will go the same way as duelling: if it can become a sport in the meantime, as fencing has done, then it will survive in a new form.

Greenwich boxing ban

Greenwich councillors took the controversial decision this week to ban professional boxing on council premises.

Prime leisure facilities such as the new Waterfront Centre in Woolwich will not now play host to fights as councillors argue it is a dangerous sport from which promoters reap the rewards and the council obtains nothing.

Don Austen, an SDP councillor, said: "At present, boxing is strictly controlled but if we ban it, it will go underground and we'll have no control over it at all."

Labour councillor David Clark pointed out it did not mean boxing would be banned in the borough altogether: "We are saying that ratepayers money shouldn't be put into people beating each other senseless."

TANGIER'S UNFADED GLAMOUR

Andrew Powell went to Tangier expecting to be disappointed. But by the end of his stay he writes: "I was forced to reflect on how wrong you can be about a place. I felt quite contrite: it wasn't really fair to enjoy myself so much in a town I had been so rude about."
Page 59

AUTUMN IN HARDY'S WESSEX

The villages of Lower Bockhampton, where Thomas Hardy was born, and Stinsford, where his heart is buried, supplied him with the setting for his stories. Dorchester, which he named Casterbridge, contains many buildings which can be identified in his books. Jenny Nisbet went wandering in Wessex.
Page 57

SUCH HARD WORK CRUISING

Roland White joined a cruise ship in Venice, sailed to Greece, up the coast of Italy, along the Riviera and disembarked at Barcelona. He discovered that life at sea — and sightseeing ashore — developed a rather exhausting rhythm. And at night passengers glide about in dinner jackets and evening gowns as if they were on the Queen Mary.
Page 58

GARDENING

Francesca Greenoak visits the Oxford Botanic Garden.
Page 55

Liverpool teams can set much needed example

By Clive White

Merseyside, once synonymous with the Beatles and football but nowadays, sadly, violence and tragedy as well, will again find itself, unwillingly, the focus of the wrong kind of attention this weekend.

Hooliganism again provides the backcloth, this time among players rather than spectators, and the critical eyes of interested parties, inside and outside of the game, will be watching in particular how the players behave at potentially explosive games involving Everton, today, and Liverpool, tomorrow.

Both teams will be seeking to put right what they may see as injustices perpetrated against them. Everton return to the scene of their contentious Littlewoods Cup defeat against Nottingham Forest at the City Ground on Wednesday. Tomorrow, in the live TV match, Liverpool receive Arsenal the team who in the final game at Anfield last season, and with very nearly the final kick, snatched away the championship title Liverpool had believed was rightfully theirs.

It is perhaps a happy chance that the Football League have chosen to place George Courtney, widely regarded as England's best referee, in charge of the match at Nottigham.

It should be said that neither Liverpool nor Everton have a record of violence but as Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, recently pointed put, the pressure on players and managers alike to succeed has never been more intense. Both Liverpool and, in particular, Everton have been troubled recently by failing form.

The sudden outbursts of player indiscipline, witnessed at Highbury, Selhurst Park and Upton Park in recent weeks, even brought a comment yesterday from Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, who complained about the deterioration in communications between players and referees.

"I don't think we have to spell out to players how they should behave," he said. "It is not the sole responsibility of players, managers and clubs because referees are responsible as well and they must interpret the rules properly.

"You cannot blame players and managers without bringing officials into line as well. If we had a better understanding between players and officials it would be better for the game.

"Whatever walk of life you are in, the people who are making the decisions are always going to have a them-and-us attitude but it should not be that way. We are all in this together. Football is far more important than any one manager or any one referee."

Colin Harvey, whose intervention at the end of Wednesday's game helped defuse a potentially serious situation said yesterday that at today's game he would be seeking from Courtney a definite ruling on how long a goalkeeper can keep hold of the ball.

It was from a free kick awarded by George Tyson against Southall for time-wasting that Forest scored the only goal of the game. Harvey expects Southall to come in for some barracking from the crowd today.

The behaviour of Liverpool players — and supporters — last season when they lost to Arsenal was exemplary, as Dalglish remarked yesterday. The demands made upon them tomorrow, when a win could regain for them the first division leadership, should, paradoxically, be easier than on that fateful evening of May 26 when a draw, even a 1-0 defeat, would have been enough to retain the title.

Liverpool, subconsciously at least, were encouraged on that occasion to play a little negatively, which is never their way at Anfield. Yet it is to their defence — particularly their aerial defence — that they may have to look more hopefully than usual tomorrow if they are to fashion a victory.

Dicks's hopes on ban

Julian Dicks, the West Ham United captain, is likely to escape with a one-match ban for his sending-off in the tempestuous Littlewoods Cup match with Wimbledon on Wednesday.

The Football Association was awaiting the report from the referee, Alf Buksh, yesterday but a disciplinary committee spokesman said: "We understand that the player was sent off for two bookable offences, the second being for persistent misconduct."

In a stormy match which has left both clubs to answer an FA disrepute charge, Dicks was dismissed after a challenge on Dennis Wise, having earlier been booked for dissent. The second transgression would have been enough to give him a three-match ban by taking him beyond 20 points but, as it is part of the sending-off package, it is expunged from totting-up.

Weight-watchers in the spotlight

BARRY GREENWOOD

Taking the strain: Lorraine Connor, of Great Britain, competing in the 48kg class in the world and European women's weight lifting championships in Manchester yesterday. A total of 139 women from 24 countries have entered for the championships

Broken nose puts off Watson bout

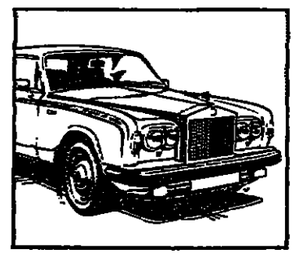
By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Michael Watson's challenge for the World Boxing Association middleweight title, held by Mike McCallum, of Jamaica, was yesterday called off with just five days to go. The Londoner broke his nose in training and was admitted to the Wellington Hospital, St John's Wood, for an operation. He will be out of the ring for two months.

The injury happened on Tuesday with the last punch of 77 rounds of sparring in Florida and London. The damage, from a blow by Ray Webb, the Stepney super-middleweight, was not noticed until two days later at a party for Watson. Mickey Duff, his manager, noticed that his nose "looked a little strange", and even though Watson made light of it, Duff took the boxer to a Harley Street specialist.

Duff said: "It is just one of those things, but Michael isn't exactly pleased about it after working for 10 or 11 weeks. It's a real blow, but I think it will make Michael even keener. The pity is that he was looking so good in training."

Barry Hearn, the promoter, has cancelled the entire card on November 29 at Alexandra Palace, north London.



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THE TIMES
MAKE·IT·WORK·FOR·YOU

Steinlager first to cross 50-mile line

From Barry Pickthall
Fremantle

One death, five other man-overboard casualties, three cases of fractured limbs, together with countless tales of broken gear and blown sails. This is the unhappy tally that bears witness to the fact that the 23 Whitbread crews contesting this year's Round the World yacht race have faced the toughest conditions, ever experienced in the 16-year history of the race.

Yet, after this wild 7,650 mile run through the notorious Roaring Forty and Screaming Fifty latitudes of the Southern Ocean, amazingly, just minutes, not days divided the four leading yachts last night as they raced the final miles to the finish line off Fremantle.

Steinlager 2, the New Zealand ketch skippered by Peter Blake, was first to cross the 50-mile radius line, 12 miles ahead of both Britain's Rothmans, the Swiss yacht, Merit, with Blake's New Zealand rival, Fisher & Paykel, chasing hard a further two miles astern.

"We're driving dead down wind at 10 knots, warding off Fisher & Paykel in 20knots of wind" Blake reported last night. However, with the south-westerly winds turning northerly close to the coast, it was likely that all four yachts would bunch right up as they hit the new wind.

Whatever the final order last night, Blake and his crew looked certain to retain the 12 hour lead she built up over Pierre Fehlmann's Merit on the first stage of this epic from Southampton to Punta del Este, Uruguay. It also left Grant Dalton's team on Fisher & Paykel and Britain's Lawrie Smith with little opportunity to lessen the day deficit they carry on the pace-setting New Zealanders.

The result must come as a bitter disappointment for Dalton, whose yacht led this stage around the freezing wastes of the Antarctic for most of the 7,650 mile distance, gaining a 90 mile advantage at one stage. His luck finally ran out along with the wind off the Kerguelen Islands, just before the fleet began climbing the latitudes for Australia.

While the Fisher boys sat becalmed off these weather beaten islands, thay had to watch with increasing frustration as first one, then another tailender closed the gap.

First, it was the Finnish challenger, Martela, that swept ahead 300 miles further south, then Fortuna, the record setting Spanish yacht skippered by Javier Gandara, powered past after recording a best day's run of 393 miles. Both have since fallen back, Martela to sixth, leaving Fortuna, which has two injured crewmen on board nursing broken bones, trailing a further two places astern.

But the break in the wind also gave Steinlager, Merit and Rothmans the chance to catch Fisher & Paykel up, and unlike those two front runners, they grasped the opportunity with all hands.

These four have set a record average of 276 miles a day, to complete the testing distance in 27 days — five ahead of official estimates.

Further back in the fleet, Patrick Tabarly and his French crew on L'Esprit de Liberté have taken up the running from Belgium's Rucanor Sport in the chase to catch Britain's Maiden team for division three line honours over the final 1,800 miles to the finish.

Last night, Tracy Edwards and her crew held a 54 mile lead over Tabarly's stage one winning yacht with Rucanor chasing a further two miles astern.

LEADING POSITIONS (at 14:34 GMT yesterday, with nautical miles to Fremantle): Maxi division: 1, Steinlager 2, P Blake (NZ) 56 miles; 2 equal, Rothmans, L Smith (GB) and Merit, P Fehlmann (Swiss) 68; 4, Fisher & Paykel, G Dalton (NZ) 70; 5, The Card, R Nilson (Swe) 263; 6, Martela OF, M Wilckari (Fin) 277; 7, Charles Jourdan, A Gabbey (Fr) 282; 8, Fortuna, J de la Corndara (Sp) 291; 9, UBF Finland, L Ingvall (Fin) 300; 10, Gatorade, P Siccoun (It) 436. 11, Fazisi, S Novak (USSR) 449; 12, NCB Ireland, J English (Ire) 511; 13, Saiquote British Defender, Lt Com C Watkins (GB) 519; 14, Belmont Finland, H Harkimo (Fin) 519; 15, Liverpool Enterprise, B Salmon (GB) 552. Division 2: 1, Equity & Law, D Nauta (Neth) 1,166; Division 3: 1, Malden, T Edwards (GB) 1,893; 2, L'Esprit de Liberte, P Taberly (Fr) 1,947; 3, Rucanor Sport, B Dubois (Bel) 1,950;4, Schlussel von Bremen, H Muller-Rohlke (WG) 2,270; 5, La Poste, D Malle (Fr) 2,858. Cruiser division: 1, With Integrity, A Coghill (GB) 2,280; 2, Creagmhors Naturally, J Chittenden (GB) 2,857.

Simon Barnes's Sporting Diary, page 10

Mike Gatting talks to **Peter Bills** about the disillusionment with cricket that swung his decision to tour South Africa

Why I still feel bitter towards England

MIKE GATTING

Born: June 6, 1957.
First-class career: Middlesex debut: 1975. **Capped:** 1977. **Captain:** 1983. **Record:** 360 matches. **Batting:** 559 innings (82 not out), 22,563 runs, average 47.30, 54 hundreds, 117 fifties, highest 258 (v Somerset, 1984). **Bowling:** 145 wickets, average 28.19, best 5 for 34 (v Glamorgan, 1982). 320 catches.
Test career: Debut: 1977-78 (v Pakistan). **Captain:** 23 matches, won 2, drew 5, lost 16. First captained 1986 (v India). Last captained 1988 (v West Indies). **Record:** 68 matches. **Batting:** 117 innings (14 not out), 3,870 runs, average 37.57, 9 hundreds, 18 fifties, highest score 207 (v India, 1984-85). **Bowling:** 4 wickets, average 79.25, best 1 for 14. 51 catches.
One-day Internationals: Record: 85 matches. **Batting:** 82 innings (17 not out), 2,049 runs, average 31.52, 1 hundred, 9 fifties, highest score 115 not out. **Bowling:** 10 wickets, average 33.40, best 3 for 32.

RICHARD WILLSON

"When I told Micky Stewart about the approach from the South Africans, I wanted someone to give me one good reason for not going. That was all."

Mike Gatting is talking as the November fog swirls around Enfield Cricket Club; it is almost symbolic of the depressing year rolling through his mind.

"I assumed the information would be passed on to the rest of the authorities," Gatting said. "But nobody at all came back to me. It disappointed me immensely. I dearly loved playing for England and just wanted someone to come and say, 'Look, we understand the situation. But we want you to stay and play for England.' But no one came to speak to me. Had they done so, it is quite possible they might well have talked me out of it."

Gatting began his year hoping to regain the England captaincy, take a successful tilt at the Australians and perhaps enjoy more county success with Middlesex.

He finishes it, ready to leave for South Africa in January; happy, sad, relieved, disappointed, disenchanted. He has memories of a family tragedy, a thumb broken at a most inopportune time, and curtains drawn across his England career.

To understand Gatting's perception of a turbulent period in international cricket, it is necessary to recall the infamous dispute with the Pakistan umpire, Shakoor Rana, and the story of an incident with a barmaid in Leicestershire during the 1988 Test match at Trent Bridge. Both came to be crucial in his decision to turn away from playing Tests for England. Money, he insists, was the last consideration.

This loss of faith in the England regime was the critical factor. "Things were done that I could not reasonably understand. There were grudges that were held, and I could not understand why they were held against me. There seemed to be a struggle going on which I didn't like and didn't think was right."

Gatting could have accepted banishment after the row with Shakoor Rana. "I could have fully understood it if they had sacked me immediately and said, 'Look, you cannot do that, you were totally wrong and we are sending you home.'

"But I still do not understand, and never will, how a country which is holding a Test match can delay it for a day and a half. We should have come home. Once they had said they were not going to tell the umpires to go back on to the field, that should have been it.

"I understand it would have caused a fairly large rift in public relations, but at times you have got to take a stand if you believe in something. The game was abused."

If Gatting felt let down by the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) over its lack of support for him, then the aftermath of the barmaid story shattered him. He lost the England captaincy over an incident which he is convinced was set up.

"We had beaten the West Indies 3-0 in the one-day internationals, drawn the first Test and I felt there was something very, very, good going to happen for England. Then it was all pulled out from underneath me by what one can only describe as a comic-book story."

Today, he remembers a warning he received at the beginning of the 1988 season that something like the Leicestershire incident might occur. But his abiding memory is of the TCCB's subsequent action: the board said it believed him, and then it sacked him.

The divide between the authorities and players worries him. "English cricket will never fulfil its potential while there is this gulf." He wonders whether all the sacrifice is worthwhile, whether it can be justified.

"Well, it is for the people who go and watch the game, because the support I had through the rough times from complete strangers was tremendous. I cannot thank them enough."

Despite everything, by the start of 1989 he was still a candidate for captaincy and he had worked on his fitness. Then came the first setback.

"Not getting the captaincy was a blow to me. But as we said at the beginning of the year, whoever got it we would support totally. After all, there was an Ashes series to win."

The broken thumb incurred while fielding against Hampshire at Lord's could hardly have been more unfortunate. It ruled him out of the first Test match at Headingley.

Gatting said: "A first Test match is very, very important. More often than not, it really does set the tone of a series. That first session, that opening hour, is crucial.

"On our last tour in Australia, Australia put us in at Brisbane in the first Test and we ended that day at something like 180 for two. We stayed on top throughout that series – just as Australia were to do this time."

Gatting's selection for the second Test match, at Lord's, could not have been easy. He had not picked up a bat for 3½ weeks. "If I had been captain I would have been sceptical about picking myself. And I certainly would not have picked myself for the third Test at Edgbaston because my form just was not up to it," he added.

"To play Test cricket, 90 per cent of which is in the mind, you have to be in the right frame of mind. I wasn't, for two reasons: my lack of form and the severe illness of my mother-in-law."

As soon as he arrived in Birmingham, Gatting was called to a telephone to be told of the death of his wife's mother. He went straight back to London – and, had he but known it, forever out of Test cricket.

Thus, his final innings was in the 1989 Lord's Test. He was dismissed in the manner which had so often threatened to blight his career: leg-before offering no stroke, this time to Terry Alderman.

"It's a bad way to get out. But you have to decide at Lord's whether the ball will go on down the hill or climb back up. The pity was, in the first innings I had got a duck, caught bat-and-pad by Boon, which is such a rare dismissal for me that it was only the third time in my entire career I could recall getting out in such a way."

He knew England could not revive their summer. "There were too many injuries and the side kept changing too much. And by the time it got to the third Test the amount of pressure on David Gower was getting very heavy indeed, and that does not help."

The call from South Africa came on Monday, July 17. Gatting was surprised to hear Dr Ali Bacher on the line asking if he could come to talk with him. They met at Enfield Cricket Club. "At that stage, signing for a tour of South Africa was the last thing on my mind. I had no inkling at all of what was going on or that 14 guys had already been signed up, and a bloke in my side at Middlesex had been doing most of the organizing. I knew nothing about it; I was not interested in it. I had always steered away from South Africa."

Bacher revealed the names of his recruits which, Gatting says, shocked him. However, he could understand the desertion of some because of his view of the way those players had been treated by the England selectors ("or whoever picks the England sides") over the years.

"I said it was going to be a difficult situation for me. I told him how much I loved playing for England, but the one thing he had on his side was that I was feeling somewhat disenchanted with what had happened over the last year and a half."

Gatting prevaricated when Bacher contacted him again a few weeks later. He desisted further on a subsequent call. It had been Bacher's intention to announce the story immediately after the fourth Test at Old Trafford. In the event, it leaked out on the Monday morning of the Test. By then, the silence from Lord's and those in charge had made up Gatting's mind.

It had been his intention at the start of the year to make just two more tours: to West Indies in 1990 and Australia later in the same year. He wanted to go back to Australia to make another big Test century and round off his touring career in style, hopefully by winning the Ashes again.

"Not playing for England again will be very hard to accept," he said. "It will be the frustration really. But now I have got to start being a family man and looking after them, which I have not done for the last 14 years.

"I have enjoyed playing for England immensely and have been proud to do so. And I want what I have said to be regarded as constructive because it is intended to help get things right in our cricket. There is so much that is good about our game and the problems are not insurmountable."

So how will Gatting reflect on a Test career that reached a peak with the winning of three trophies on the 1986-87 tour of Australia? He stares out into the fog, his words finally coming: "It was extremely enjoyable, but cut short when things might have gone better. It was a long, hard slog at the start, but if I had been stronger in character and a bit stronger in positive thought than I was when I first started, and not worried about what other people said and about failing, I might have been a better player sooner."

Outside the little pavilion, the lurking mists which had awaited his departure quickly swallowed him up.

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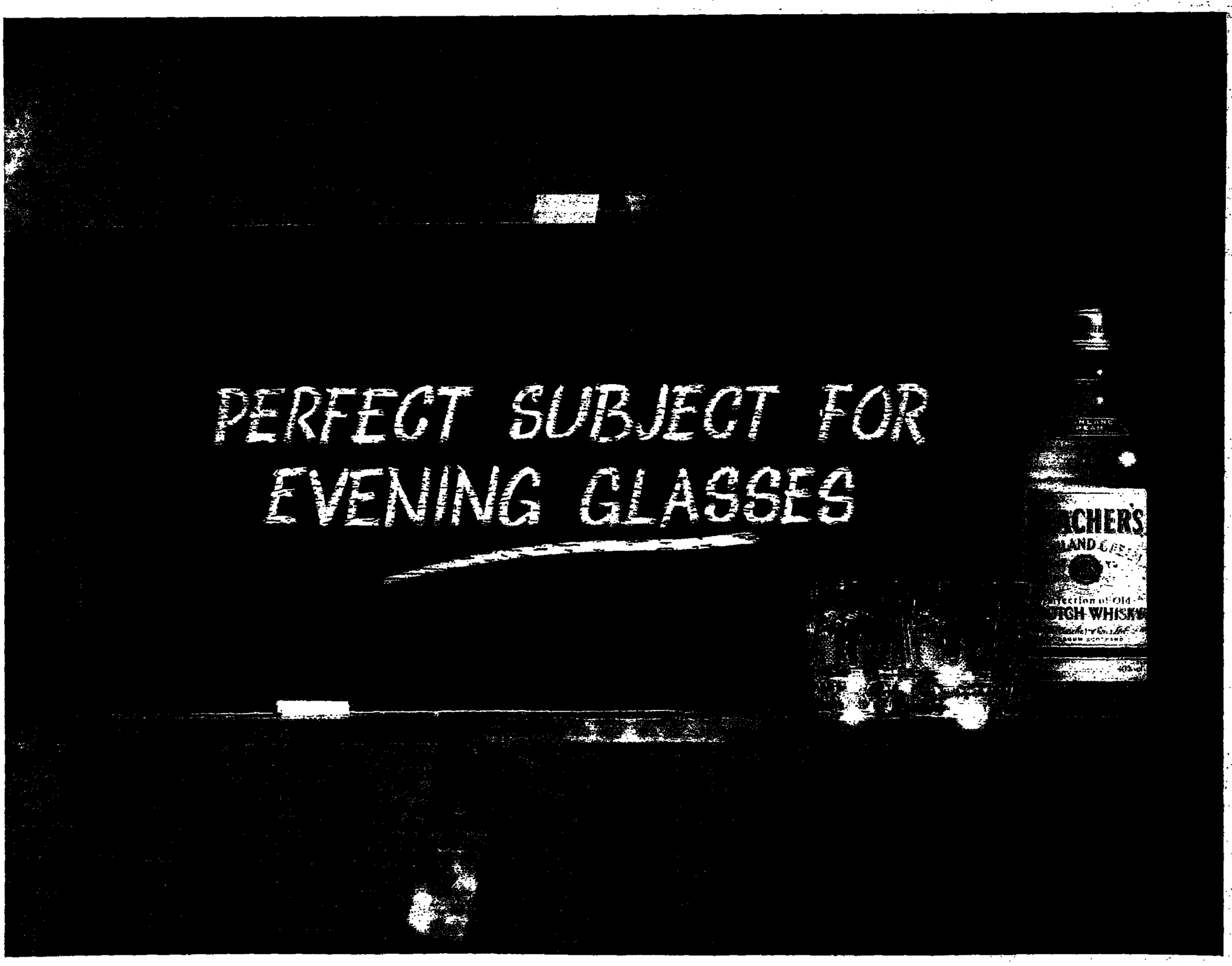

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FOOTBALL: PITCH VIOLENCE A NEW PHENOMENON WHICH IS THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF DECLINING BEHAVIOUR IN THE ENGLISH GAME

Why clubs should pay the price in points

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

English football hooliganism, though now mercifully rare on the terraces, has become shamefully visible on the pitches. Three fixtures in London this month have featured ugly brawls involving more than a dozen players and the Football Association has taken the unprecedented step of charging four clubs with misconduct and with bringing the game into disrepute.

Such widespread violence is a new phenomenon. Arsenal and Norwich City, whose case is to be heard on Monday, are the first clubs to be accused of causing "unruly disturbances". West Ham United and Wimbledon, who will present their defences next month, are the third and fourth.

Crystal Palace and Tottenham Hotspur, the two other teams to be involved in a public fracas, are notrequired to answer any charges. Yet they and the representatives of all of the other leading clubs should accept responsibility for the general decline in the standard of behaviour.

Every side (even those with higher principles, such as Liverpool and Nottingham Forest) bends the rules. It seems to be not so much customary as obligatory for at least one player to stand over *the ball, for instance, whenever* a free kick is awarded against his team. That is cheating.

The failure to retreat 10 yards is irritating enough for the opponents and spectators alike. To hold on to the ball or to kick it away, which also appears to be required of players, is an equally blatant and inexcusable manifestation of so-called "professionalism". It is also nothing less than cheating.

So is the feigning of injury, a nauseating continental habit which is invading the domestic game. Nayim's excessive reaction, when brushed by Venison's elbow at Anfield a month ago, was one of the more laughable examples of an act designed to prompt the referee to punish the supposed offender.

Although the modern game is played within a substantially more restrictive framework and defences are so tightly organized that there is no longer any room for colourful individuals, discipline is becoming increasingly loose. Confirmation, if it was needed, was provided by Lou Macari, the West Ham manager, on Wednesday night.

He suggested that the disgraceful scuffle, provoked by Wise's malicious lunge on Dicks, "*would not have happened* a few years ago. The players involved would just have picked themselves up and walked away." As at Highbury, their colleagues ran 30 or 40 yards to join the physical affray.

On both occasions, the immediate response of the managers was regrettable. George Graham, of Arsenal, and Dave Stringer, of Norwich, preferred to remain silent for fear of attracting official condemnation if they criticized the referee. No apparent attempt was made to speak out against their own irresponsible players.

Bobby Gould, of Wimbledon, did indicate that he would be holding an internal *inquirybut Macari deflected* questions about his intentions. It was depressing to hear him say, after the 1-0 victory in the Littlewoods Cup fourth round, that "all our fans care about is that we are in the next round."

Such a statement indicates that the end justifies the means. Now that the game is covered so extensively on television, as Gould appreciates, clubs have a special duty to portray a different and more appealing picture. It is a pity that Wimbledon, among others, have not yet convincingly done so.

"It does not matter whether you win or lose but where you place the blame". The philosophical words, uttered by Snoopy, the favourite cartoon character of Gordon Taylor, the Professional Footballers' Association chief executive, hang on the wall of his office and he believes that the mounting pressures on managers partly explain the rise in misconduct.

Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, adds that "behaviour must also be the concern of the board". Since presumably the players themselves must be held responsible for their own actions, all of the club's representatives should share equal blame for any incidents which may occur.

Should Arsenal and Norwich be found guilty, they are expected to be fined, perhaps heavily. Yet the FA is empowered to impose a more severe *punishment* which would have a powerful dissuasive effect. League points could be deducted, a measure known to be favoured by Kelly.

If chairmen and managers are incapable of instilling decent and proper standards, then their clubs should be penalized where it most hurts. The *loss* of money, even thousands of pounds, represents a smack on the wrist. The loss of points would be a salutary punch in the solar plexus of their conscience.

Ibrox crowd ready to bid a fond farewell to Wilkins

By Roddy Forsyth

Despite the midweek defeat by Aberdeen, which leaves Rangrs trailing the Pittodrie club by two points at the top of the premier division, the Ibrox side's manger, Graeme Souness, is likely to duplicate Wednesday's team for today's *home match with* Dunfermline.

The occasion will have a certain poignancy ,however, because of the imminent departure of Ray Wilkins, whose career was resurrected when he moved to Ibrox from Paris St Germain two years ago.

Wilkins has become an established favourite with the Rangers supporters, who were saddened when he announced that he intended to accept an offer from Queen's Park Rangers to play out what is likely to be the remainder of his career in his native London, which he left 13 years ago.

He is likely to be given a warm reception by the Ibrox crowd in what is his final match for Rangers, but his departure leaves the massive Rangers following to ponder the question of who in the present squad will fill his role as playmaker in the centre of the park.

Ian Ferguson, signed from St Mirren in 1988, has rarely looked at ease in more exalted surroundings, but he is perfectly capable of replacing the departing Englishman. "Ian Ferguson began the season playing particularly well. I thought he was the best player on the pitch in our friendly with Tottenham Hotspur and I only took him off the pitch because he was getting himself involved with Paul Gascoigne," Souness said yesterday.

"Then he got a virus, followed by a niggling injury, and recently he has been suffering from tonsillitis. In fact, he should probably have his tonsils removed. The trouble is that he is the kind of player who needs all his stamina to perform and he has been below par for most of the *season, but I thought that* against Aberdeen he showed more of the form I know he will produce again,"

Souness adds Neale Cooper to the 13 who were named in Rangers' squad for Wednesday's match against a Dunfermline side who, like their hosts, had a heartening sequence of results truncated by Aberdeen, 3-0 winners at East End Park last week.

The new league leaders are permitted by the fixture computer to enjoy their status in a home match against St Mirren. The Pittodrie manager, Alex Smith, has warned his side that championship aspirations may be fortified by wins against the likes of Rangers, but are easily undermined by an over-casual approach to such teams as St Mirren, who took a point from Celtic, at Parkhead, in midweek.

Tony Fitzpatrick, the St Mirren manager, is pleased with the form of his Icelandic forward, Gudmundor Torfarson, but said yesterday that the addition of Hans Gillhaus to Aberdeen's burgeoning Dutch contingent edged the Pittodrie team into the position of clear favourites to relieve Rangers of their championship.

Gillhaus will play today, but it is not yet certain whether he will be partnered by his countryman, Willem Van der Ark, or Charlie Nicholas, for whose services no offer had been made yesterday, despite *speculation that he might be* on the move to France.

Celtic, having failed to win any of their past four games, travel to Motherwell, which has proved an awkward venue for them in the recent past. Celtic's latest Polish acquisition, Dariusz Wdodyczk, did enough in his debut, at Parkhead, *in the midweek* encounter with St Mirren, to guarantee another outing in the Parkhead defence. The Motherwell defender, Craig Paterson, was today banned from the ground because he had contracted a virus, but it seems likely that he will play.

Dundee United and Heart of Midlothian, for whom Dave McPherson, Scott Crabbe and John Robertson are fit, make up the card with an attractive tie at Tannadice, along with Dundee who travel to Easter Road to meet Hibernian, who have not won since the middle of last month.

Book ends: From left with Miller (centre) are Charlie Nicholas, Neil Simpson, Willem Van der Ark, and Hans Gilhaus

How an unlikely lad made good

By Roddy Forsyth

Willie Miller's career is best described as paradoxical. Born in 1955 in Glasgow, he grew up in Bridgeton, an area of the city even more saturated by football fanaticism than most, but he showed so little interest in the game that although he was inveigled into his primary school team, he was allotted the role of goalkeeper — usually reserved for those whose enthusiasm for the sport is somewhat suspect.

Although he lived within a short distance of Celtic Park, the juvenile Miller was first noticed in a schoolboy trial played across the street from Ibrox. As goalkeeper for an unusually poor XI, he was beaten no fewer than 10 times, but either out of sympathy for his plight or because he had been an unwilling focus for their attention, the selectors of a Glasgow primary schools touring party included him in a three-week trip to the United States.

His enthusiasm for the rewards of football might easily have been stillborn; he was knocked down while playing in a bounce game in the street *outside his tenement home by a* joyrider driving a stolen car. His home life was similarly colourful, because the Miller family's neighbours included a Roman Catholic family fond of playing Irish rebel songs and a Salvation Army household which responded with a tambourine-led cacophony.

It is tempting to suppose that the boy was persuaded to move to the opposite end of Scotland to preserve his eardrums or his sanity, but the beginnings of his association with Aberdeen were more prosaic. "In Bridgeton and the east end of Glasgow you played the game for the love of it and you certainly didn't think of it as a career. That just evolved when I was about 14 and Aberdeen made the approach to sign me on an S-form.

"That was when I learned that in football you have to take your chance where and when it presents itself and that you must be prepared to move on if necessary, so I thought it was quite natural to come to Aberdeen."

At Pittodrie he was seen as an attacker, but in a match against Rangers reserves in December 1972 he was employed as a makeshift defender and played in such a composed fashion that after his speedy graduation to the first team he made central defence his preserve to such an *extent that virtually all of his* subsequent appearances — over 900 for Aberdeen and 62 for Scotland — were to be in the middle of the rearguard.

In 1980 the club and international partnership with Alex McLeish became established, a partnership which burgeoned as happily off the field as on. At the launch of Miller's autobiography at Pittodrie this week, McLeish broke away from the crowd to pay eloquent tribute to his partner's reputation as the personification of the Pittodrie team and its aspirations.

"A few years ago I was down at the Player of the Year ceremony in Glasgow and a press man asked me if I was jealous of Willie because he had won the award. I said: 'Of course I'm jealous, I wanted to win it myself'. But that's just ordinary competitiveness. You also have to accept the other thing, that when you become as successful as Willie has been there are people who like to see you take a fall. That's a fact of life in every profession or trade.

"But no matter how jealous some people might be of his achievement, he is the man as far as Aberdeen Football Club is concerned and he'll go down in history as probably Aberdeen's greatest ever player. The only thing I would like to add is that I ran him a close second."

The saturnine Miller, who, by his own admission, did not instantly win his way into the affections of Billy McNeill or Alex Ferguson when they arrived at Pittodrie as managers, remains a blend of contradictions. A player who is noted for his relentless advice to referees, he insists that he is a shy, rather withdrawn individual in private life.

Evidence of a sardonic and self-mocking sense of humour was, however, offered at the launch of his book when he entertained a substantial throng by reading out telegrams *purporting to come from other* noted figures in the Scottish game.

"Thanks for all the advice and help over the years," read the supposed contribution of Kenny Hope, the referee, who was involved in a much-publicized confrontation with Miller last year. According to Miller, the telegram from Jim McLean, Dundee United's lugubrious manager, read: "The paying public have been cheated again."

Despite a painful and potentially serious knee injury sustained while playing for Scotland in the critical World Cup qualifying match with Norway at Hampden Park 10 days ago, Miller intends to fulfil the remaining 18 months of his playing contract with Aberdeen.

(The Miller's Tale, an autobiography with Alastair Macdonald, Mainstream Publishing, £9.95).

Old Trafford in the glare

The spotlight may be swivelled in the direction of Anfield tomorrow, but its glare is directed at Old Trafford this afternoon where Manchester United entertain Chelsea (Louise Taylor writes).

A crowd of old fashioned proportions is expected for a match which could take Chelsea back above Arsenal at the head of the League. After five games unbeaten and having lost only twice all season, the Londoners are entitled to be confident.

Yet United, who by winning three out of their last four encounters and suffering only a single defeat in their last six have risen to seventh place, will be no push-overs.

It is a task relished by Bobby Campbell, the Chelsea manager. "There will be over 40,000 there and we have people in our side who like that sort of atmosphere and challenge," he said.

Alex Ferguson, his United counterpart, said: "We're now in the kind of position that I have been striving for. We want to be involved in games that mean something and have a bearing on the top places."

After weeks of protracted negotiations, Newcastle United and Crystal Palace yesterday finally agreed the £650,000 fee which will enable Andy Thorn, the former England under-21 central defender, to exchange Tyneside for London.

The former Wimbledon player travels to the capital in order to discuss personal terms

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

April start to season

A 12-week schedule with the emphasis on divisional play was announced yesterday by the International League of American Football for its first season next spring.

The season will open with three games on Saturday, April 14 — Amsterdam at Munich, Milan at London and Barcelona at Helsinki.

The league will be split into two divisions, with each team playing a home-and-away series against the other three clubs in its group. The rest of the schedule will be made up of inter-divisional games, with each team playing all clubs outside the division at least once.

All divisional games will be played on the same weekends — April 21, May 5, May 19, June 2, June 23 and June 30.

The top two teams in each division will play on July 7 for places in the league championship game the following week. The divisional title matches will be held at the home fields of the first-place teams.

The ILAF is being formed by a group of financiers headed by Carroll Huntress, a former American coach who is the league's commissioner.

BOXING

Jacobs needs bigger punch

Mike Barrett, the manager of Gary Jacobs, still believe the Scot can make the leap from Britain's Young Boxer of the Year to world champion. Few will share the belief after watching the 23-year-old Glaswegian lose his Commonwealth welterweight crown to Canadian the Donovan Boucher in Motherwell on Wednesday night.

Even Barrett had to admit that Jacobs's work-rate was "appalling" and that he cannot hope to reach the top without a bigger punch. Boucher won on points after putting the London-based southpaw on the floor for the first time in his 28-fight career in the fourth round.

"Certain matters have to be attended to if Gary is to win a world title, which I still think he can," Barrett said. "He's got to develop more power. It's there to be brought out, I'm sure. In both his last two fights he has stood on leaden feet at times and been hit far too much. He has tried to knock his man out and hasn't had the punch to do it."

Boucher summed up the situation when he commented: "He's young enough to come again, but if you want to be in the world's top 10 you can't afford to have your hands down and your head sticking up."

Jacobs makes a mandatory defence of his International title around February. The opponent could be the unbeaten Venezuelan, Luis Garcia, ranked Number 2 by the World Boxing Association. Victory over him and Jacobs's standing would be fully restored.

SQUASH RACKETS

The Khans are still on on top of the world

From a Special Correspondent, Stuttgart

The Stuttgart Open provided the ideal opportunity for Jansher Khan and Jahangir Khan, the great rivals from Pakistan, to prove that they are still worthy of their standing as the top two players on the world's ranking list.

The two Pakistanis had slipped from grace somewhat in recent weeks, suffering two defeats each at the hands of Chris Dittmar and Rodney Martin, the hungry pair from Australia who follow immediately behind the Pakistanis in the world order.

But both Khans grasped the chance in Thursday night's semi-finals to post strong evidence that they are not yet ready to relinquish their exalted positions. Jahangir avenged two defeats by Dittmar at last month's world championships by beating the left-hander from Adelaide over four hard-hitting games, while Jansher triumphed in five games against the dazzling strokeplay of Martin, to whom he had lost in the world team championship and again in the US Open final last weekend.

While the great Pakistani pair were proving their point at the highest level of the game, the Stuttgart event also served to highlight the promise of two of England's younger players.

Paul Gregory and Chris Walker were disappointed at being omitted from England's squad for the world team championship in Singapore, and in Germany each produced performances that gave considerable credence to their aggrievement.

Gregory defeated Simon Parke and Del Harris, who both played for England in the world championship, plus world number 10, Mir Zaman Gul, before falling to Jahangir in the quarter-finals. Walker went out one round earlier but extended Dittmar to five games with a quality display that earned high praise from the Australian world No. 3.

Pakistan silence costly

A breakdown of communication between the world headquarters of squash in Cardiff and the Pakistan authorities immediately after Australia's defeat of Pakistan in last month's World Team Championship Final, has led to the loss of three leading men's tournaments from this year's calendar Colin McQuillan writes.

It also means the probable future shift of the top graded Al Falaj Open to join the earlier Pacific circuit next year.

Pakistan International Airways (PIA) cancelled their Masters event two months ago when transferring their sponsorship to *the Pakistan hockey squad.*

The International Squash Players Association says it was verbally assured by Pakistan officials during the World Team Championships that the President's Cup would go ahead from December 8 to 14, however, and George Hook, the Al Falaj organizer, was at the world championships, collecting visa details from Al Falaj entrants.

Two telex messages on October 20 and November 2, followed by attempts to contact the Pakistan Squash Federation by telephone for confirmation of the President's Cup dates and prize money, failed to elicit a response so ISPA told its members to presume the tournament was not taking place.

A week ago, ISPA received a telex from Pakistan declaring *the President's Cup was still in* place but not confirming prize money. By this time most players had rearranged their schedules.

BADMINTON

Troke has old rival Larsen in her sights

By Richard Eaton

Helen Troke made a slightly stuttering start to her attempt to win the Carlton Vauxhall Scottish Open *Championship* when she was taken the full distance by Lotta Wihlborg, the Swedish international, in her opening match at the Meadowbank yesterday.

The top-seeded former European champion dropped the middle game to the athletic young Scandinavian but came back strongly to win 11-2, 5-11, 11-1. It put her within one victory of a possible semi-final today with her old rival, Kirsten Larsen, the reigning European champion, who is battling for the last place in next month's World Grand Prix final.

The other home hope, the third seeded Commonwealth champion Steve Baddeley, proved too experienced for the Scottish international Kevin Scott, winning 15-4, 15-11, after earlier overcoming Denmark's Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen. Another seeded Englishman, Anders Nielsen, also reached the last eight.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL): Detroit Lions 13, Cleveland Browns 10; Philadelphia Eagles 27, Dallas Cowboys 0.

BOWLS

COUNTY MATCH: Hertfordshire 142, Bedfordshire 98.

BOXING

MELBOURNE: World Boxing Council junior-lightweight championship eliminator (12 rnds): Jeff Fenech (Aus) bt Mario Martinez (Mex), pts.

MOTHERWELL: Professional promotion: Commonwealth welterweight championship (12 rnds): Donovan Boucher (Can) bt Gary Jacobs (Glasgow, holder), pts. World Boxing Association Inter-Continental light-welterweight championship (12 rnds): Tim Burgess (US) drew with Alex Dickson (Larkhall). Peebles (6 rnds): Ian McGirr (Clydebank) bt Eddie Cook (Larkhall), pts.

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Australian Combined Services 151-5 and 212 (Learmouth 4-59); Combined Services 217-8 and 143-6. Match drawn.

CYCLING

GHENT: Six-day race: Leaders after three days: 1, E De Wilde and S Tourne (Bel), 148pts; 2, V Diehl (WG) and J Bruyneel (Bel), 106; 3, U Freuler and H-R Marti (Switz), at 1 lap, 180.

GOLF

TOKYO: Casio world open tournament: Leaders after two rounds (Japan unless stated): 135: H Green (US), 69, 67. 136: N Ozaki, 66, 70. 137: T Nakamura, 70, 67. 138: L Mize (US), 67, 71; M Calcavecchia (US), 68, 69. 139: C Marsh (Aus), 68, 71.

ADELAIDE: South Australian open championship: Leaders after two rounds (Australia unless stated): 140: J Evans, 71, 69; P Foley, 73, 67. 141: J Woodland, 73, 68; M Stevens, 66, 75; M Harwood, 72, 69; N Price (Zim), 70, 71. 143: B Hughes, 67, 76; L Stephen, 74, 69; T Elliot, 74, 69. Leading Britons: 150: S Bennett, 73, 77. 151: C Moody, 76, 75.

YAMOUSSOUKRO: Ivory Coast open championship: First round leaders (GB unless stated): 68: G J Brand, 69: P Talbot, C Platts, S Hamill, J Pinsent, J Morgan, B Porter, I Spencer. 70: V Singh (Fiji), P Hoad, S Kone (Iv C).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (BHL): Boston Bruins 8, Toronto Maple Leafs 0; St Louis Blues 5, Winnipeg Jets 2.

ICE SKATING

KOBE, Japan: International competition: Men: Positions after original programme: 1, V Petrenko (USSR), 0.5pts; 2, A Fadeyev (USSR), 1.0; 3, E Larson (US), 1.5. Women: Positions after original programme: 1, M Ito (Japan), 0.5; 2, T Kwiatkowski (US), 1.0; 3, K Yamaguchi (US), 1.5. Pairs: Positions after original programme: 1, E Gordeeva and S Grinkov (USSR), 0.5; 2, I Selezneva and O Makarov (USSR), 1.0; 3, C Hough and D Ladret (Can), 1.5. Ice dance: Positions after original set pattern: 1, M Klimova and S Ponomarenko (USSR), 0.6; 2, O Grischuk and E Platov (USSR), 1.2; 3, J-A Borlase and M Smith (Can), 1.8; 5, L Burton and A Place (GB), 3.0.

SQUASH RACKETS

BERMUDA: Open championship: Men's singles: Final: B Martin (Aus) bt P Whitlock (Eng), 7-9, 5-9, 9-2, 9-1, 9-7. Women's singles: Final: D Drady (Aus) bt E Irving (Aus), 9-6, 9-7, 9-2.

TENNIS

ITAPARICA, Brazil: Men's tournament: Singles: Semi-finals: M Jaite (Arg) bt E Sanchez-Vicario (Sp), 6-3, 7-6; J Berger (US) bt J Yzaga (Peru), 6-4, 7-5.

WEIGHTLIFTING

MANCHESTER: Women's world and European championships: 44kg: World: 1, Xing Fen (China), 155kg (world record); 2, D Kunjaran (India), 132.5; 3, I Sastiyah (Indo), 130. European: 1, G Foldi (Hun), 130; 2, R Slocza (It), 120; 3, M Los Angeles (Sp), 110.

GOLF

Nicklaus and Trevino join the Skins game

From John Ballantine, Palm Springs

Jack Nicklaus and Lee Trevino, who are only weeks and days away from their fiftieth birthdays on January 21, 1990, and December 1, 1989 respectively *with all that that implies for* next year's senior tour, are joined by Raymond Floyd, aged 47, and Curtis Strange, 34, in the $300,000 (approximately £182,000) Skins game starting on the testing PGA West course here at La Quinta today.

This is the course on which, in the Bob Hope Pro-Am two years ago, Tip O'Neill, the Speaker of the House, took seven shots in one of the cavernous bunkers before picking his ball out of the pernickerty sand and throwing it on to the green; a gesture every frustrated golfer understood and one enjoyed by millions on television.

Crackpot shots have abounded here since Vice-President Spiro Agnew bloodied his partner, Doug Sanders' head in an another Hope two decades ago. And because of this weekend's gambling format, more amazing strokes, like Trevino's dramatic hole in one at the water-ringed 166-yard 17th to win the 1987 Skins are hourly anticipated.

The 18 holes spread over two days are divided into three sixes, the price money being $15,000, $25,000, and $35,000 at each hole for each segment.

The four ball tees off together and if one player does not win any hole outright (two birdies or two eagles are no good) the "pot" is added to the next. Thus no wins at the first three could result in prize money of $60,000 resting on the fourth hole.

Jack Nicklaus, who has said that he will play in the seniors Skins in January, is the only man to have played in all six Skins so far. "The man to watch this time is Curtis," Trevino said yesterday, tongue firmly in cheek. "But don't rule me out either."

● YAMOUSSOUKRO: Gordon J Brand, who has won the *title three times*, leads the £175,000 Ivory Coast Open championship after shooting 68, four under par, in the first round.

Five-star break for winning entry

The Times today offers a special prize for the racing enthusiasts among our readers — plus all those who enjoy high-class sport. The winner of our competition will have two days at the Rank Holiday Festival of Racing at Kempton as the highlight of a luxury visit to London.

The winner and a companion will have this time-table to delight them:
December 26: In the morning, join Richard Pitman, the BBC Television commentator and former jockey, and his group at the Royal Garden Hotel in Kensington and travel on to Kempton for lunch and a grandstand view of the day's racing, including the King George VI Rank Steeplechase. In the evening, return to the Royal Garden for cocktails and buffet and then on to a West End theatre to see *Les Miserables, Phantom of the Opera* or *Aspects of Love.*
December 27: After the overnight stay at the five-star Royal Garden and breakfast, it's back to Kempton for lunch and racing before travelling home.

To enter, study the five questions below, complete the entry form and send it to reach the address shown by Friday, December 1.

THE QUESTIONS

1. Who was second to Nupsala in the 1987 King George VI Chase?
2. Who was second to Desert *Orchid in the race last year?*
3. How many National Hunt winners did Martin Pipe train in the 1988-89 season?
4. How many times has the Dickinson family, Tony, Michael and Monica, trained the winner of the King George VI Rank Chase?
5. How many National Hunt winners did John Francome ride in his career?

ENTRY FORM

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

ANSWERS

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Send completed entry form (to arrive by Friday, December 1) to: Rank Holiday Competition, Sports Department, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The competition is not open to employees (and their relatives) of Times Newspapers Ltd, Rank or their agents. The Sports Editor's decision is final. No correspondence.

IN BRIEF

Whitlock beaten

Hamilton — Phillip Whitlock, of England, put up a spirited performance against the top seed, Brett Martin, of Australia, before losing 3-2 in the final of the Bermuda Open squash championship here on Thursday night.

Whitlock, the No. 5 seed, won the first two games, 9-7, 9-5, but tired, and Martin, the world No. 8, fought back to win the next three games 9-2, 9-1, 9-7.

Athletics grant

Britain's athletics preparations for the 1992 Olympic Games have been given a grant of £400,000 from Minet. It is part of the insurance company's £2 million overall commitment to Britain's Olympic preparations.

Best given 14 days

George Best, the former Northern Ireland and Manchester United footballer, was yesterday given 14 days by the London Bankruptcy Court to present the full facts about the £75,000 he received from his testimonial match in Belfast earlier this year.

On the top table

Michael O'Driscoll, from Mirfield, and Bradley Billington, from Chesterfield, are given the chance of top international experience in the Finnish Open table tennis championships in Helsinki from December 1 to 3.

Not so original

Kobe — The men's world figure skating champion, Kurt Browning, of Canada, fell twice during his original programme yesterday, dashing his hopes of victory at an international competition in Japan.

Elliott runs indoors

Peter Elliott will advance his preparations for the Commonwealth Games 1,500 metres with an indoor race over the distance at the Mizuno Open meeting at RAF Cosford next Saturday.

Sportsmen and women are also having to adapt to changes in East Germany

Wall of privilege comes down

From Anne McElvoy, East Berlin

When Kristin Otto, the East German Olympic swimming champion, enters a restaurant in her native Leipzig, you can hear the clatter of forks respectfully restored to plates as the diners stare at the local heroine. There is an audible ripple of "six golds, you know".

Before the recent government changes and introduction of *glasnost* in East Germany, Otto could have been assured of a constant flow of such appreciation. But in the present climate, top sportsmen and women have become as much targets of popular wrath as the politicians.

The world and Olympic discus champion, Martina Hellman, has been subjected to attacks on her home and abusive telephone threats — one caller threatened to throw her baby out of the window. She told an East German newspaper that the aggression she suffered locally has made her "scared to go out."

The speed skater, Constanze Moser, and the swimmer, Heike Friedrich, have both had their cars damaged, and there are dozens of other less publicized cases of threats against sportsmen and their families.

Kristin Otto insists that she has been spared this sort of treatment although she admits that she is constantly asked to justify her privileges and that she is aware of a strong anti-sporting animus.

She decided this week to give up swimming, insisting however that this had nothing to do with the events around her. "At the European championships in Bonn in August I realized I was at the limits of my potential. I could feel a new generation of youngsters snapping at my heels." She is 23.

Her new task, she says, is "To learn about the feelings people have in my country, what it is that makes them go on to the streets. As a sportswoman, I was sheltered from the frustration, the dissatisfactions of the ordinary people here. I lived in a different world."

She has put her finger on the cause of the aggression towards top sportsmen: those envied in Western sporting circles have become for many East Germans a symbol for the division and privilege in their country. Western-style tracksuits and training gear, the much-envied frequent trips abroad and the uncritical presentation of sportsmen as "models for our youth" in the Press: these have all served to alienate sportsmen from the population.

"What is happening now is a backlash against years of repressed grumbling," says Otto. "People were kept in the dark about our lives and that produced rumours. We were said to have supplies of Western food, wonderful training facilities and supplies of Western currency. This could all have been dispelled if we had opened up our facilities to the public. The most damaging thing about the last regime was the lack of openness."

For the first time now there is open discussion about the financial rewards given to sportsmen in the GDR. Up to Olympic level these are not generous although there are premiums for performance.

An Olympic gold medal winner gets 35,000 East marks (£11,500 — at the official exchange rate, real value substantially less) for every gold and 6,000 West marks (£2,000). There are lesser sums for silver and bronze but Otto is in the enviable position of not having to worry about what these are.

She has a three-room flat and a Peugeot which she bought with her Olympic winnings. "For East Germans the thought of three rooms for one person and a Western car is enough to bring on a apoplectic fit" she said. "But we have achieved world-class performances and recognition for our country unmatched in any other sphere. Our privileges are as nothing against those enjoyed by politicians and their offspring who have quite frequently done nothing but harm."

National heroine: Kristin Otto shows off the six gold medals she won at the Seoul Olympics

Approaching the prickly question of sporting privilege in the Eastern Bloc with a Western lens, one concludes that top sportsmen are scarcely dwelling in financial Arcadia. The profits from an advertising deal with Adidas flow into the State's coffers, individuals are banned from undertaking advertising deals, although this looks likely to change as pressure mounts for East German sport to finance itself.

Domestically, there is a widespread feeling of sporting ennui, the result of a country gorged on success in one field while painfully aware of its shortcomings in others.

Otto says that the result is a decline in interest in the GDR's most successful sport. "It is very difficult to impress here. People just shrug and say 'The swimmers have won again'. I have seen my sport become less and less popular."

The open borders also remove the motivation of travel to the West which was previously a strong draw into sport for young people. East German sport, previously untouchable, is no longer exempt from wide-ranging discussions on the country's future economic priorities.

It seems unlikely that East Germany will be prepared to lose its main prestige earner in the West but there is no question that sport will have to compete more intensively for funds in the straitened economic circumstances.

The Deutscher Turn und Sportbund — the National Sporting Association — is beginning discussions on the possibility of introducing professional sport to the country, allowing athletes to be paid performance fees or take part in advertising in the West.

Otto has now begun to train as a journalist at a Leipzig radio station and at the university. The sudden change of media policy has meant that her journalism course has been suspended until January while her tutors adapt from indoctrination to critical openness. The new thinking is clearly a challenge she is happy to accept. "Previously people fell to the ground in respect when they heard that you were an Olympic medal-winner.

"Now they ask you to justify the money spent on your training, but it is a much healthier spirit: the spirit of competition and I'm used to that."

Sport plays lead role as Berlin unites

By Michael Coleman

Sport is wasting no time in bringing German fusion nearer, judging from Berlin developments. Combined use of training camps by sportsmen and women from both sides of the Wall was among matters agreed at a meeting between officials from East and West in West Berlin on Thursday.

A programme of 58 high level contests in a variety of sports, at which individuals and teams from both Berlins will take part, was also drawn up. In addition, sports organizations and clubs will be given a free hand to arrange their own lower-level fixtures.

Heading the high-powered discussions were Manfred von Richthofen, chief of West Berlin's sports union, the LSBB, and Rudi Ebmeyer, the head of the Eastern side's corresponding DTSB.

Among the sports immediately benefiting will be football, ice hockey, speed skating and athletics. The West Berlin-based Hertha FC, whose forgotten but eternally loyal supporters from the East are giving it new life, is to join East Berlin's popular five-a-side indoor tournaments this winter. Its matches against Union FC, like Hertha, a club steeped in football history, will pack the stadium.

Ice hockey is also in for a revival with Preussen Berlin, from the West, taking on the East's two clubs in regular competition.

The World Cup in speed skating starts on both sides of the divided city today with the men competing on the open Wilmersdorf track in the West, and the women skating indoors on the fast Dynamo Eishalle. With the sudden political thaw encouraging a full turn-out, records are likely.

The fullest turn-out of all, however, would be in a mass run, passing through the Brandenburg Gate on New Year's Day and finishing in the Alexanderplatz to the East. Athletes from both sides have made a joint request to their respective mayors for this. The joint meeting discussed this and also the possible merging of West Berlin's classic marathon and the East's similar mass Peace race.

TENNIS

Golarsa's injury a boost for Britain

**From Barry Wood
Nantes**

Britain's chances of reaching the final of the European team championships received a boost here yesterday when Laura Golarsa, who might have been expected to meet Clare Wood, injured her back when playing Jonna Jonerup, of Sweden.

Although Golarsa, of Italy, managed to win the match, 6-2, 7-6, she was not risked in the doubles. Instead, Laura Garrone was chosen with Cathy Caverzasio but she, too, had back problems, had not practised, and the match was abandoned with Sweden leading 4-2.

With Sandra Cecchini having defeated Cecilia Dahlman 6-4, 6-7, 6-1, Italy had already condemned the Swedes to a relegation play-off.

On a day once again so cold, even indoors, that most of the players refused to wear regulation outfits, Golarsa played throughout in a sweatshirt and tracksuit trousers, and she made a much more difficult job of beating Jonerup than she would have done the day before.

Her ailing back was only part of the problem. The court is slow and Golarsa favours a fast surface to assist her serve and volley game. However, why Cecchini, who is a clay-court specialist, should struggle against Dahlman was a mystery.

She served for the match at 6-5, was broken, and then double-faulted to give the Swede set point. But she finally asserted her authority by giving up only two points in the last four games.

RESULTS: At Helsinki: Second division: Group A: Switzerland bt West Germany, 2-1. Group B: Czechoslovakia bt Belgium, 2-1. At Maribor: Third division: Group A: Bulgaria bt Spain, 2-1. Group B: Denmark bt Poland, 3-0.

Seles fills gap left by Graf

Essen — The loss of Steffi Graf because of a pulled stomach muscle injury may prove less catastrophic to the inaugural WITA Nokia Masters here if Monica Seles can continue to produce the brand of tennis she displayed in overwhelming Gabriela Sabatini 6-2, 6-2 yesterday (Richard Evans writes).

Seles, whom Ted Tinling is describing as the most electrifying performer women's tennis has seen since Suzanne Lenglen, is certainly as compelling to watch as she must be challenging to play. For the first six games of the match, the two girls who will give Graf the closest run for her money in the immediate future, unleashed a turbo-charged level of tennis before another sell-out crowd. Graf had given them a taste of what women's tennis has become but this was power hitting in an even higher gear.

Sabatini's mistake was to play Seles' game. "I was surprised that she tried to outhit me," Seles said.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Penalties prompt Ashby warning on illegal tackles

By Keith Macklin

After eight-match suspensions had been imposed on Shane Cooper and Paul Moriarty on Thursday night, the chairman of the League, Bob Ashby, yesterday issued a strongly worded statement declaring that such penalties would become the norm rather than the exception in cases of flagrant high tackles.

Ashby said: "The suspensions must not be regarded as one-off punishments. The board of directors is anxious to maintain the high image of the game in the eyes of the public and the players must exercise self-discipline. The board and its committees will insist that the highest standards are maintained on and off the pitch at all times. This type of heavy punishment for illegal high tackles will be a continuing policy."

The suspensions imposed by the disciplinary committee are likely to hit St Helens much harder than Widnes. Cooper is a vitally important link between backs and forwards at Knowsley Road, and has been in excellent form as St Helens have moved into the top four with seven successive victories. However, with the greatest respect to **Featherstone Rovers**, tomorrow's match at Post Office Road should be won by St Helens, despite the enforced absence of Cooper. St Helens are playing some delightful and exciting rugby at the moment.

Widnes play **Castleford** in a televised fixture this afternoon and can cover the absence through suspension of Moriarty with the return of Sorensen and Eyres. Sorensen from the New Zealand tour of France and Eyres after injury. Castleford are expected to be unchanged after their brilliant 40 points victory over Warrington last week, and this should be a splendidly fought match full of thrilling handling moves in which both sides excel.

Wigan, cheered by the news that Ellery Hanley may be fit to play again within six weeks, should retain their position at the top of the table against **Hull**, who are having a disappointing season. Hull were beaten at home by St Helens in midweek and they are weakened by the loss through injury of Pearce and Jackson.

Several **Barrow** players are threatening to leave the club after the dismissal of the Australian coach, Rod Reddy, and **Wakefield Trinity**, who have moved up to fifth place after their win at Leigh, should have no difficulty following a host of other clubs in piling up the points against the bottom club.

There should be a battle royal in the West Riding derby between **Bradford Northern** and **Leeds** at Odsal, with Leeds improving with every match and deriving considerable confidence from their victory over Widnes last Sunday.

Salford still believe they can escape from the relegation zone under their new coach, Kevin Tamati, and **Sheffield Eagles**, despite their surprising impact on the first division, will have their work cut out to win at The Willows.

SNOOKER

Double-booked on Saturday night

By Steve Acteson

It is curious the way that the British public tend to categorize leading sporting figures. They become heroes or villains, entertainer or bores. Alex Higgins, for example, the former World and United Kingdom champion can do no wrong in the eyes of his still large army of followers no matter how badly, at times, he plays or behaves.

This undoubtedly stems from the time, early in the 1980s, when he was at his best. There was nobody to touch him in terms of sheer excitement; Higgins was not sport, he was pure theatre and never more so than when he came back from 7-0 down in the final of the 1983 United Kingdom championships to wrench the crown from the grasp of Steve Davis.

Higgins, however, has already made his exit from this year's StormSeal sponsored UK event at the Guild Hall, Preston and today Davis, winner of the title six times since 1980, takes centre stage against Willie Thorne with Canada's Alain Robidoux and his fellow-countryman Brady Gollan attempting to upset each other in the supporting feature.

Davis, of course, is one of the "bores"; he wins far too often for a start, 50 titles so far. He is rich and, according to some people who have never seen him in the flesh let alone spoken to him, he is also arrogant.

In reality, however, he is a charming, unboring, unassuming person who this evening will not only be playing Thorne but will also be hosting his own radio show "The Interesting Soul Hour".

This sounds quite a good trick if you can pull it off. But, of course, Davis, whose record collection includes 5,000 singles and 3,500 LPs and who is also proprietor of a soul magazine "Voices from the Shadows," has pre-recorded his hour for Richard Branson's Radio Radio.

"I really enjoy doing it and I'm getting better, slowly," he said, adding with quiet humour "I have revolutionary ideas like introducing a record, playing it, talking about it and then putting another one on. I've changed the whole concept of broadcasting really."

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League
First division
Charlton v Man City
Coventry v Norwich
Manchester U v Chelsea
Nottm Forest v Everton
QPR v Millwall
Sheff Wed v Crystal Pal
Southampton v Luton
Tottenham v Derby County
Wimbledon v Aston Villa

Second division
Blackburn v West Ham
Bradford v Bournemouth
Brighton v Sunderland
Hull v Barnsley
Ipswich v Oldham
Middlesbro v Oxford
Newcastle v Sheff Utd
Plymouth v Port Vale
Stoke v Leicester
Watford v Wolves
WBA v Leeds Utd

Third division
Birmingham v Bolton
Blackpool v Tranmere
Bristol R v Swansea
Bury v Crewe
Cardiff v Preston
Fulham v Wigan
Huddersfld v Notts Cty
Leyton O v Mansfield
Northampton v Brentford
Reading v Bristol City
Rotherham v Shrewsbury

Fourth division
Chesterfield v Hartlepool
Exeter v Wrexham
Grimsby v Aldershot
Halifax v Maidstone
Hereford v Doncaster
Lincoln v Burnley
Peterborough v Torquay
Rochdale v Carlisle
Stockport v Scunthorpe

GM Vauxhall Conference
Barnet v Stafford Ran
Barrow v Kettering
Chorley v Boston
Enfield v Altrincham
Farnboro Tn Darlington
Fisher Ath v Telford
Kiddermstr H v Sutton Utd
Merthyr Tyd v Runcorn
Northwich v Cheltenham
Welling v Macclesfield
Yeovil v Wycombe W

Vauxhall League
Premier division
Bromley v Aylesbury
Carshalton v Redbridge F
Dagenham v Basingstoke
Hayes v Grays
Hendon v Barking
Leyton-W Harrow
Marlow v Slough
St Albans v Kingstonian
Staines v Dulwich
Windsor and Eton v Wokingham

ABACUS LEAGUE: Premier division: AFC Cardiff v Abergavenny; Aberystwyth v Ton Pentre; Briton Ferry v Haverfordwest; Cymbran v Bridgend; Pembroke v Port Talbot; Pontllanfraith v Ammanford.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Burscough v Atherton LR; Chadderton v Bootle (2.15); Leyland Motors v Flixton; Nantwich v Clitheroe (2.15); Salford v Skelmersdale (2.15); Vauxhall GM v Colwyn Bay.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena v Bangor; Carrick v Linfield; Cliftonville v Portadown; Coleraine v Larne; Crusaders v Distillery; Glenavon v Ards; Glentoran v Newry.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: President's Cup: First Round, second leg: Fleetwood v Frickley; Goole v Bangor City; Hyde v Witton; Premier division: Bishop Auckland v Marine; Caernarfon v Shepshed; Colne Dynamo v Buxton; Matlock v Morecambe; Mossley v Gainsborough; Rhyl v Stalybridge; South Liverpl v Horwich; Southport v Gateshead; First division: Alfreton v Accrington Stanley; Congleton v Radcliffe; Penrith v Eastwood Town; Whitley Bay v Leek; Workington v Winsford; Worksop v Newtown.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Gosport; Burton v Crawley; Cambridge City v Alvechurch; Chelmsford v Dorchester; Corby v Bath; Dartford v Wealdstone; Gloucester v Gravesend; Moor Green v Dover; VS Rugby v Ashford; Waterlooville v Worcester; Weymouth v Bromsgrove; Midland division: Banbury v Tamworth; Barry v Nuneaton; Bilston v Dudley; Hednesford v Racing Club Warwick; King's Lynn v Stourbridge; Leicester v Grantham; Redditch v Halesowen; Sutton Coldfield v Bedworth; Willenhall v Stroud; Southern division: Andover v Folkestone; Baldock v Salisbury; Dunstable v Witney; Fareham v Canterbury; Margate v Bury; Poole v Erith and Belvedere; Sheppey v Burnham; Trowbridge v Buckingham.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Plymouth Arg; Liskeard v Chippenham; Mangotsfield v Swanage and Herston; Radstock v Saltash; Tiverton v Barnstaple; Torrington v Taunton; Weston-super-Mare v Frome.

SKOL NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Town v Seaham Red Star (2.15); Guisborough v Newcastle Blue Star; Shildon v Alnwick; South Bank v Easington; Spennymoor v Durham (3.15); Stockton v Ferryhill; Tow Law v Billingham Synthonia (2.15).

FA VASE: Second round: East Thurrock v Felixstowe; Braintree v Yeading; Diss v Walthamstow Pennant; Beckenham v Haverhill (1.45); Burnham Ramblers v Aveley; Clapton v Sudbury; Norwich v Potton (2.0); Harefield v Tiptree; Gt Yarmouth v St Ives; Whitstable v Wandsworth and Norwood; Hailsham v Horsham (2.0); Camberley v Hythe; Corinthian Casuals v Chertsey (2.0); Deal v Chipstead (2.0); Sittingbourne v Bracknell; Molesey v Corinthians; Rossendale v Maine Road; Rocester v Hucknall; Droylsden v Sutton; Hinckley Athletic v Histon; Bridgnorth v Lye; Hamsons v Spalding (2.0); Holbeach v Bourne; Irthlingborough Diamonds v Wisbech; Gresley v Paget Rangers; Rushden v Sandwell; March v Raunds; Boldmere St Michaels v Hinckley (2.0); Billericay v Wingate; Collier Row v Berkhamsted; Stotfold v Tring; Brightlingsea v Stevenage; Havant v Hastings; Merstham v Maidenhead United (2.0); Hounslow v Greenwich (2.0); Thame v Eastleigh; Vale Recreation v Sholing Sports (7.0); Bashley v Hungerford; Abingdon v Romsey; Wimborne v Newbury; Bridport v Thatcham (2.0); Clevedon v Yate; Bristol Manor Farm v Brislington; Exmouth v Wellington; Chard v Sharpness; Dawlish v Old Georgians (2.0); Paulton v Clandown; Falmouth v Shortwood (2.0); Chester Le Street v Sheffield; Bridlington Town v Newton Aycliffe; Northallerton v Consett (2.0); Farsley v Borrowash Vic (2.0); Darwen v North Ferriby; Emley v Dunstan FB; Eppleton CW v Netherfield (2.0); Guiseley v Whickham; Harrogate RA v Peterlee Newtown (2.0); Arnold v Heanor; Ossett v Denaby; St Dominics v Curzon Ashton (2.0); Ashton v Eastwood Hanley; St Helens v He wall; Harrogate v Rainworth MW; Wi rington v Garforth (2.0)

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Luton v Fulham; West Ham v Tottenham.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare v North Shields; Brigg v Bridlington Trinity; Grimethorpe MW v Thackley; Hallam v Belper; Ossett Albion v Hatfield Main.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Watford; Cambridge v Charlton; Chelsea v Norwich; Fulham v Tottenham; Gillingham v Queen's Park Rangers; Leyton O v Southend; Millwall v Portsmouth; West Ham v Ipswich. Second division: Aldershot v Luton; Bournemouth v Southampton; Bristol v Northampton; Bristol Rov v Brentford; Colchester v Wimbledon; Crystal Palace v Swindon; Oxford v Brighton; Tottenham v Reading.

SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: Second round: Bexhill v Arundel; Bognor Regis v Eastbourne; Littlehampton v Shoreham; Midhurst and Easebourne v Wick; Pagham v Newhaven; Peacehaven and Tels v Haywards Heath; Ringmer v Langney Sports; Saltdean v Worthing; Selsey v Bosham; Three Bridges v Oakwood.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier Division: Old Carthusians v Old Brentwoods; Old Malvernians v Old Cholmeleians: First division: Old Ardinians v Lancing Old Boys; Old Wellingburians v Old Aldenhamians; Old Westminsters v Old Bradfieldians; Old Wykehamists v Old Haileyburians.

HOCKEY

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bromley v Reading (Newstead Woods School, Orpington, 2.00); Hounslow v Harborne (Feltham School, 2.00); ISCA v Indian Gymkhana (Ottery St Mary, 2.15); Old Loughtonians v Stourport (Chigwell, 2.30); Southgate v Havant (New River Stadium, White Hart Lane, 2.00); Teddington v Cannock (Broom Road, 12.30pm); Wakefield v Slough (Scholemoor Stadium, Bradford, 12.00); Wirton v East Grinstead (Grove Sports Centres, Newark, 11.30). Second division: Bournville v Broxbourne (Shenley Court SC, Birmingham, 2.00); Brean v Cambridge City (Bristol Univ, 12.00); Canterbury v Warrington (Polo Farm, Canterbury, 12.30); Gore Court v Coventry and North Warwickshire (Holly Bush Lane, Sevenoaks, 12.00); Neston v Guildford (Wyncote SC, Liverpool Univ, 12.30). Peterborough v Lyons (St Ivo Centre, Cambridge); St Albans v Doncaster (Clarence Park, 1.15); Taunton Vale v Richmond (Taunton School, 12.00).

PERONI SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Anchorians v Tunbridge Wells; Bognor v Trojans; Gravesend v Fareham; High Wycombe v Eastcote; Old Midwhitgiftians v Camberley; Old Tauntonians v Chichester; Sevenoaks v Oxford Hawks; Winchester v Marden Russets. Regionals: Hampshire-Surrey: Barnes v Basingstoke; Bournemouth & WH v Goan; Merton v Old Edwardians; Nat West Bank v Hamble Old Boys; Old Walcountians v Metropolitan Police; Southampton Univ v Epsom; Walton v Woking; Weymouth v Fleet. Kent-Sussex: Brighton & Hove v Burnt Ash; Herne Bay v Old Williamsonians; Lloyds Bank v Lewes; Mid-Sussex v Old Bordenians; Old Holcombeians v Old Beccehamians; Rochester and Gillingham v Folkestone; Thames Poly v Worthing; Tonbridge v Horsham. Middlesex, Berks, Bucks and Oxon: Aylesbury v Southgate Adelaide; British Airways v NPL; Garrards Cross v Hendon; Hayes v Witney; Marlow v City of Oxford; OMT v Bracknell; Staines v Amersham; Windsor v Sunbury.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedford v Colchester; Bishop's Stortford v Bedfordshire; Blueharts v Crostyx; Bury St Edmunds v Ford; Cambridge v Westcliff; Harleston v West Hertfordshire; Ipswich v Chelmsford; Pelicans v Norwich Grasshoppers.

ERNST and YOUNG LEAGUE: Premier division: Barford Tigers v Kidderminster; Bloxwich v Leicester Westleigh; Derby v Olton and West Warwick; South Nottingham v Belper.

B and Q Scottish League
Premier division
Aberdeen v St Mirren
Dundee Utd v Hearts
Hibernian v Dundee
Motherwell v Celtic
Rangers v Dunfermline

First division
Airdrie v Partick
Ayr Utd v Alloa
Clyde v Albion R
Falkirk v St Johnstone
Meadowbank v Clydebank
Morton v Hamilton
Raith R v Forfar

Second division
Arbroath v E Stirling
Berwick v Kilmarnock (1.0)
Brechin v East Fife
Cowdenbeath v Queens Park
Queen of Sth v Montrose
Stirling A v Dumbarton
Stranraer v Stenhsmuir

RUGBY LEAGUE

2.30 unless stated

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Widnes v Castleford. (2.45).

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: Bradford Northern v Workington Town; Carlisle v St Helens (2.15); Dewsbury v Barrow; Trafford Borough v Doncaster (2.15); Whitehaven v Huddersfield.

HANDBALL

BRITISH LEAGUE (men): Kirkby Select v Tryst '77 (4.0); Liverpool v Manchester United SSS (6.0); Birkenhead v Strathclyde University (6.0).

LACROSSE

BRINE SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Conference A: Beckenham v Brighton; Hampstead v Bucks; Southampton v Bath; Oxford v Croydon. Conference B: Hitchin v Cambridge; Kenton v Purley; London v Hillcroft.

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Cheadle v Old Waconians; Mellor v Wilmslow; Old Hulmeians v Timperley; Sheffield Steelers v Rochdale; Stockport v Old Stopfordians.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK ENGLISH: First division men: Speedwell v Liverpool City (7.0); Polonia v Star Aquila (5.30); Poole SC v MGI Wessex (6.15); Dynamo London v Staffordshires (1.30); Bristol Poly v Hilton Leeds (7.0); Team Mizuno Malory v Time Out (6.30).

ROYAL BANK SCOTTISH: First division men: Team Fife v Team Krystal Klear; Bellshill Cardinals v Airdrie; Falkirk v East Kilbride; Su Ragazzi v Team Novasport DV; Elliott Sports Jets v Kinlesh Plant.

First division women: Adscreen Kyle v Hydrasun Tullos; Deloitte Hazlehead v Airdrie; Falkirk v Provincial Insurance; Glasgow Bannerman v Grangeburn Coaches; Elliott Sports Jets v Whitburn Centre.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr Raiders v Murrayfield Racers (7.0); Cardiff Devils v Durham Wasps (6.30); Fife Flyers v Peterborough Pirates (7.15); Nottingham Panthers v Whitley Warriors (8.30); First division: Deeside Dragons v Streatham Redskins (5.30); Humberside Seahawks v Slough Jets (5.15); Swindon Wildcats v Cleveland Bombers (6.0); Telford Tigers v Trafford Metros (7.0): English League: First division: Basingstoke Beavers v Sheffield Sabres (6.0); Sunderland Chiefs v Oxford City Stars (5.30).

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final: Yugoslavia v England.
NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE: First division (men): Corby v Bury (7.30); Stevenage v Chesire (8.0); Worthing v Plymouth (8.0): First division (women): Leicester v Cardiff (8.0); Stockport v Gateshead (8.0).

RUGBY UNION

3.0 unless stated

TOUR MATCH
Barbarians v New Zealand
(at Twickenham, 2.15)

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP

First division
Bedford v Moseley
Bristol v Rosslyn Pk
Gloucester v Saracens
Harlequins v Leicester (12.0)
Nottingham v Orrell
Wasps v Bath

Second division
Coventry v Richmond
Liverpool St H v Northampton (2.45)
Plymouth v Gosforth (2.30)
Rugby v Headingly
Sale v L Irish (2.45)
Waterloo v Blackheath (2.45)

Third division
Askeans v Sheffield (2.30)
Exeter v Fylde (2.45)
Lydney v L Scottish
Roundhay v L Welsh (2.30)
Vale of Lune v Nuneaton (2.30)
Wakefield v W Hartlepool (2.30)

Area League-North
Broughton Pk v Preston G (2.30)
Durham v Lichfield (2.15)
Kendal v Walsall (2.30)
Morley v Northern (2.30)
Stourbridge v Stoke (2.30)

Area League-South
Basingstoke v Southend (2.30)
Camborne v Maidstone (2.30)
Cheltenham v Salisbury
Havant v Clifton (2.45)
Sudbury v Redruth (2.30)

CLUB MATCHES
Aberavon v Pontypool
Boroughmuir v Kelso (2.0)
Bridgend v Newbridge
Cambridge Univ v Neath
Glamorgan W v Cross Keys
Jed-Forest v Otley (2.0)
Llanelli v Cardiff
Maesteg v Tredegar
Penarth v Sth Wales Police
Stirling v Edinburgh Acad (2.0)
Wrexham v Winnington Pk (2.30)

McEWAN'S INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP
Glasgow v Edinburgh
(at Hughenden, 1.30)
South v North and Midlands
(at Netherdale, 2.0)

BORDER LEAGUE: Melrose v Langholm.
AYRSHIRE LEAGUE: Irvine v Ardrossan Academical.

CLUB MATCHES: Aberdeen Wanderers-Academical v Strathmore; Aberdeenshire v Aberdeen GSFP; Broughton FP v Lasswade; Clarkston v Preston Lodge FP; Cumbernauld v Waysiders; Currie v Hawick; Dalkeith v Gala Forest; Dalziel HSFP v Ayr; Drumpellier v Greenock Wanderers; Dunbar v Ross High; Duns v Hawick Harlequins; East Kilbride v Linlithgow; Edinburgh Wanderers v Perthshire; Falkirk v Alloa; Gala Star v Livingston; Garioch v Banff; Glasgow Academical v Dumfries; Gordonians v Aberdeen University; Hawick Linden v Peebles; Heriot's FP v Dundee; Howe of Fife v Leith Academical; Hutchesons v Marr; Kirkcaldy v Morgan Academy FP; Lenzie v Strathclyde Police; Madras College FP v Highland; Montrose v Moray; North Berwick v Lismore; Old Aloysians v Birkmyre; Ponoobello FP v Biggar; Royal High v Dunfermline; Selkirk v Haddington; Stewartry v Strathendrick; Stobswell FP v Harris Academy FP; Trinity Academical v Grangemouth; Uddingston v Clydebank; Waid Academy FP v Panmuir; Watsonians v Gala; Wigtownshire v Paisley.

IRELAND: Senior clubs: Armagh v Suttonians; City of Derry v Ballinasloe; Old Belvedere v NIFC; Skerries v Academy; Ballymena v Stewart's Melville; CIYMS v University College, Dublin; Instonians v Bective Rangers; Old Wesley v Civil Service; DLSP v Portadown; Ballynahinch v Dungannon; Collegians v Galway Corinthians; Malone v Ards; Bangor v Dublin University.

COLOURS MATCH: Queen's University v University College, Galway.

NORTH: First division: Halifax v Bradford and Bingley; Hull Ionians v Harrogate; Middlesbrough v Aspatria; Tynedale v Hartlepool Rovers; Wigton v Birkenhead Park. Second division: Alnwick v Wigan; Huddersfield v New Brighton; Lymm v West Park; Rotherham v Wharfedale; Sandal v Widnes.

NORTH WEST: First division: Caldy v Cockermouth; Davenport v Chester; Egremont v Sedgley Park; Macclesfield v Wirral; Sandbach v Mid-Cheshire College. Second division: Manchester v Blackburn; Moresby v Merseyside Police; Netherhall v Wilmslow; Southport v Old Aldwinians; Workington v Penrith.

NORTH EAST: First division: Blaydon v Novocastrians; Gateshead Fell v Old Crossleyans; Stockton v Morpeth; Thornensians v Selby; York v Old Brodleians. Second division: Beverley v Bramley; Newcastle University v Pontefract; Rockcliff v Ripon; Roundhegians v Old Hymerians; Westoe v Ryton.

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Cheshunt v US Portsmouth; Old Alleynians v Lewes; Sidcup v Ealing; Streatham and Croydon v North Walsham; Sutton and Epsom v Old Gaytonians. Second division: Eton Manor v Thurrock; Finchley v Norwich; Grasshoppers v Barking; Old Albanians v Ipswich; OMT v Bishop's Stortford. Second division south: Camberley v Alton; Guildford & Godalming v Old Brockleians; Old Colfeians v Esher; Old Mid-Whitgiftians v Tunbridge Wells; Worthing v Gravesend. Third division north west: Fullerians v St Mary's Hospital; Kingsburians v Hertford; Mill Hill v Bacavians; Twickenham v Upper Clapton; Welwyn v Hemel Hempstead. Third division north east: Brentwood v Romford; Colchester v Metropolitan Police Chigwell; Harlow v Cambridge; Old Cantabrigians v West Norfolk; Saffron Walden v Westcliff. Third division south east: East Grinstead v Crawley; Hove v Bognor; Old Beccehamians v Charlton Park; Old Juddians v Horsham; Westcombe Park v Gillingham Anchorians. Third division south west: Dorking v Purley; KCS Old Boys v Old Reigatians; Old Guildfordians v Old Emanuel; Old Walcountians v Old Whitgiftians; Southampton v Guy's Hospital.

MIDLANDS: First division: Barkers Butts v Westleigh; Birmingham & Solihull v Newark; Derby v Stockwood Park; Leighton Buzzard v Hereford; Sutton Coldfield v Mansfield. Second division east: Lincoln v Kettering; Moderns v Towcestrians; Scunthorpe v Peterborough; Stewarts and Lloyds v Vipers; Stoneygate v Syston. Second division west: Bedworth v Keresley; Camp Hill v Burton; Dudley Kingswinford v Wolverhampton; Newbold v Old Yardleians; Stafford v Dixonians.

EAST MIDLANDS-LEICESTERSHIRE: Aylestone St James v Belgrave; Bedford Athletic v Luton; Long Buckby v Biggleswade; Lutterworth v Wellingborough; Oadby Wyggestonians v Northampton Trinity.

NOTTINGSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE and DERBYSHIRE: Amber Valley v Melbish; Chesterfield v Kesteven; Sleaford v East Retford; West Bridgford v Spalding; Worksop v Stamford.

NORTH MIDLANDS: First division: Aston Old Edwardians v Ludlow; Bridgnorth v Luctonians; Evesham v Whitchurch; Kings Norton v Kidderminster; Newport v Shrewsbury.

WEST: First division south west: Berry Hill v St Ives; Brixham v Reading; High Wycombe v Maidenhead; Matson v Oxford; Weston v Taunton: Second division south west: Abbey v Henley; Banbury v Cinderford; Barnstaple v Torquay; Bournemouth v Bridgwater; Redingensians v Gordon League: Western Counties: Avonmouth Old Boys v Penryn; Cirencester v Okehampton; Clevedon v Newquay Hornets; Culverhaysians v Devon and Cornwall Police; Truro v Launceston: Southern Counties: Aylesbury v Swanage and Wareham; Bletchley v Oxford Old Boys: Bracknell v Oxford Old Boys: Slough v Marlow; Windsor v Swindon: Cornwall & Devon League: Bideford v Wadebridge Camels; Crediton v Illogan Park; Exeter Saracens v Plymouth CS; Falmouth v Devonport Services; Teignmouth v Penzance-Newlyn; Cornwall and Devon: Bideford v Wadebridge Camels; Crediton v Illogan Park; Exeter Saracens v Plymouth CS; Falmouth v Devonport Services; Teignmouth v Penzance-Newlyn: Cornwall: First division: Bodmin v St Austell; Bude v St Just; Hayle v Liskeard Looe; Helston v Redruth Albany; Stithians v Saltash; Devon: First division: Cullompton v Topsham; Exmouth v Old Technicians; Ivybridge v Prince Rock; Paignton v Plymouth Argaum; Totnes v Newton Abbot: Gloucestershire-Somerset League: Avon and Somerset Police v Frome; Cleve v Midsomer Norton; Combe Down v Keynsham; Coney Hill v Drybrook; Whitehall v Spartans: Berkshire, Dorset and Wiltshire: First division: Aldermaston v Sherborne; Devizes v REME Arborfield; Dorchester v Chippenham; North Dorset v Puddletown, Wootton Bassett v Corsham; Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire: First division: Beaconsfield v Milton Keynes; Bicester v Littlemoor; Chinnor v Grove; Cholsey v Drifters; Pennanians v Olney.

SPORT ON TV

Today

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Screensport 8-10am. National Football League: Game of the week. Screensport 7.30-8.30pm: College match: Screensport 11.30pm onwards: College match: Live transmission of Notre Dame v Miami.

EUROSPORT LIVE: Eurosport 1-6pm: Tennis: The Ladies Masters from Essen, West Germany. Rugby Union: Tour match: New Zealand v The Barbarians.

EUROSPORT MENU: Eurosport 9-9.30am.

FOOTBALL: Screensport 4-6pm: Canadian league: Grey cup: Final.

GRANDSTAND: BBC1 12.15-5pm: Rugby Union: Live coverage of the Barbarians v New Zealand: Snooker: UK Championship from Preston: Boxing: Gary Jacobs (Glasgow) v Donovan Boucher (Canada): Racing: 12.45, 1.15 and 1.50 from Newbury: Motor Sport: Report on the RAC Rally.

MOTOR SPORT: Eurosport 9.30-10am: Rally Challenge from the north of England and Scotland: Screensport 10am-midday: The NASCAR Atlanta Journal 500 from Atlanta, Georgia. Screensport 6-7.30pm Uniroyal Truckspeed event from Lydden Hill and Powersports International.

RACING: C4 12.55-2.50pm: 1.0, 1.30, 2.0 and 2.30pm from Newcastle: Screensport 1.30-2.30pm: 1989 Breeders Cup.

RESULTS SERVICE: ITV 4.45-5pm.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Screensport 12-1.30pm: Wigan v Featherstone Rovers.

SAINT AND GREAVSIE: ITV 1.10-1.40pm

SKIING: Eurosport 10-11am and 9.30-10.30pm: World Cup: North American leg featuring the men's and women's slalom from Park City, United States.

SNOOKER: Eurosport 11am-midday: The Rothmans GP: BBC2 4.40-6.45pm and BBC1 10.10-11.40pm: UK championship from Preston.

SPORT EN FRANCE: Screensport 11-11.30pm.

SURFING: Eurosport 11.30-midnight: Surfer magazine.

TENNIS: Screensport 2.30-4pm and 9.30-11pm: Virginia Slims championship: Semi-finals and final from Madison Square Garden: Eurosport 7-9.30pm: Coverage of the semi-finals of the Ladies Masters from Essen, West Germany.

THE YEAR THAT WAS: Eurosport 10.30-11.30pm: Outstanding sporting achievements: Featuring the World Prototype championships.

TRANS WORLD SPORT: Eurosport 6-7pm: Sport from around the world.

UPDATE: Screensport 8pm.

WIDE WORLD OF SPORT: Screensport 7.0-8.0am.

Tomorrow

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Screensport 10-midday: National Football League: Game of the week. Screensport 8-10pm: College match. C4 12.05-1.35am (Monday): National Football League.

EUROSPORT LIVE: Eurosport 1-4.30pm: Tennis: The Ladies Masters from Essen, West Germany: The final. Eurosport 7-9: Highlights of final.

EUROSPORT MENU: Eurosport 9-9.30am.

FOOTBALL: Screensport 2.30-4.15am, 12.0-1.45pm and 4.15-6.0pm: Football from Argentina: Screensport 4.15-6am: Spanish League: Tenerife v Real Madrid: Screensport 6-8am: Canadian League: Grey Cup: Western Final: Eurosport 11-12.30pm and 9-10pm: European highlights.

ICE HOCKEY: Screensport 6-8pm: The National Hockey League.

MOTOR SPORT: Screensport 12.30-2.30am and 8-10am: The NASCAR Atlanta Journal 500 from Atlanta, Georgia. Screensport 1.45-2.15pm Uniroyal Truckspeed event from Lydden Hill.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Screensport 10-11pm: Tour match: France B v New Zealand.

RUGBY SPECIAL: BBC2 4.55-6pm: Highlights of The Barbarians v New Zealand.

RUGBY UNION: Eurosport 4.30-6pm: Tour match: Highlights of New Zealand v The Barbarians.

SKIING: Eurosport 10-11am and 10-midnight: World Cup: North American leg featuring the men's and women's slalom from Park City, United States.

SNOOKER: BBC1 3-0-4.40pm and 11-pm-midnight: UK Championship from Preston.

SPEEDSKATING: Eurosport 6-7pm: World Cup (women) from Berlin, West Germany.

SPORT EN FRANCE: Screensport 2.15-2.45pm.

SURFING: Eurosport 12.30-1pm: Surfer magazine.

TENNIS: Eurosport 9.30-10am: Tennis Legends: Ralston and Nastase v Taylor and Drysdale. Screensport 2.45-4.15pm: Virginia Slims Championship: Final.

THE MATCH: ITV 3.25-5.35pm: Live coverage of Arsenal v Liverpool.

UPDATE: Screensport 6pm.

THE WORLD GAMES: C4 1.35-2.30am (Monday): Highlights from netball, pentaque, roller-skating and tachoukball.

TOMORROW

Barclays League
First division
Liverpool v Arsenal (3.30)
Second division
Swindon v Portsmouth (3.0)

CLUBCALL CUP: Third round: Bishop Auckland v Hyde.
RESPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Army FA v Territorial Army (at Aldershot, 11.0).

RUGBY UNION

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Midland Under-21 v New Zealand Youth (Bedford, 3.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Bradford v Leeds (3.30): Featherstone v St Helens (3.30): Salford v Sheffield: Wakefield v Barrow (3.30): Warrington v Leigh; Wigan v Hull: Second division: Batley v Fulham (2.30): Bramley v Huddersfield (3.30); Carlisle v Halifax (2.15); Hull KR v Dewsbury: Hunslet v Rochdale (3.30); Nottingham City v Runcorn; Oldham v Doncaster; Trafford Burrough v Wokingham (3.30); Whitehaven v Keighley (2.30).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE: Division two men: Cardiff v Manchester (4.00); Middlesbrough v North London (4.00): Division one women: Cardiff v Crystal Palace (2.00); Brixton v Sheffield (4.00); Ipswich v Leicester (4.00); Northampton v Kingston (3.30); Nottingham v London CYMCA (3.30).

VOLLEYBALL

FIRST DIVISION (men): Speedwell v Hilton Leeds (1.00); Bristol Poly v Liverpool City (10.00); Star Aquila v Staffordshire (2.30): FIRST DIVISION (women): MGI Wessex v Southgate (2.30); GP Scorpions v Dynamo London (1.45); Hilton Leeds v Sovereign Leasing Sale (2.00); Brixton Knights v Britannia (12.30); Ashcombe v Portsmouth (2.30).

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Durham Wasps v Peterborough Pirates (6.30): Murrayfield Racers v Fife Flyers (6.30): Solihull Barons v Nottingham Panthers (7.00); Whitley Warriors v Cardiff Devils (6.30). First division: Cleveland Bombers v Slough Jets (5.15): Medway Bears v Humberside Seahawks (5.15); Streatham Redskins v Lee Valley Lions (6.15).
ENGLISH LEAGUE: First division: Bracknell Bees v Chelmsford Chieftains (5.15); Sheffield Sabres v Sunderland Chiefs (5.45).

HANDBALL

BRITISH LEAGUE (Men): Manchester United SSS v Wakefield Metros (1.0): Women: Manchester United SSS v Wakefield Metros (1.0).

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE: Cheam v St Albans; Hawks v Beckenham; Mid-Surrey v Cambridge Univ; Oxford Univ v Hampstead; Spencer v London Univ; Surbiton v Dulwich; Tulse Hill v Purley; Wimbledon v Old Kingstons.

هكذا من الأصل

RUGBY UNION: CHALMERS INJURY ADDS TO BARBARIANS MOUNTAINOUS TASK AS THEY TRY TO STOP ALL CONQUERING TOURISTS FINISHING ON A HIGH NOTE

All Blacks arrive at journey's end with air of invincibility

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Injury forced the Barbarians to swap one Lion for another yesterday but the roar will remain as loud this afternoon when the New Zealanders trot out at Twickenham for the final match of their tour. It will be a roar of recognition and appreciation for a remarkable team, but also of expectation that the pride of British rugby — plus one world-class Australian — may be able to succeed where all others have failed for three years.

It has been said of previous invincible touring parties that, as their tour neared its conclusion, crowds came not to see the rugby but to see the record fall. Certainly that hope has been present throughout the All Blacks games in Wales and Ireland but it has had little on which to fuel itself and today, in a match sponsored by the Willis Group, the visitors must start firm favourites.

Their record demands that. 45 games with only one draw — against Australia last year — is an historic achievement. Not that that necessarily makes the Barbarian cause hopeless, but any team is only as good as the sum of its parts, and those parts have been together for two days.

One part malfunctioned yesterday. Craig Chalmers, the young Scottish stand-off who believed on Thursday that a knee injury had cleared up, went over on the same knee in training and withdrew in favour of Tony Clement, the Swansea player, who came late to the British Isles tour of Australia last summer. Another Welshman, Colin Stephens, the uncapped Llanelli stand-off, was added to the replacements.

The loss of Chalmers is a blow because he has been in outstanding form for Melrose this season. Nevertheless Clement has behind him the comfort of an excellent display for his club against the New Zealanders.

David Sole, the Barbarians captain, had hoped that Ian McGeechan — the Lions and Scotland coach — might help prepare the team, which includes 10 members of the summer touring party so familiar with his methods and Nick Farr-Jones, who is also a familiar recipient of them.

However McGeechan, a member of the Barbarians committee, was unavailable.So Sole discussed with Farr-Jones his tactical approach, since the Australian scrum half has so much first-hand experience of the men in black.

"What we really need to do is put pressure on their half backs because I think we could unsettle Grant Fox and young Graeme Bachop. We identified Fox as our main target when New South Wales played Auckland earlier this year and it worked. They were unbeaten in 34 matches but we won 16-11."

That places the onus on Gary Rees, the Nottingham flanker, who made such a mark playing for the Midlands against the 1983 New Zealanders. Rees's international career with England has been spent in the shadow of Peter Winterbottom and Andy Robinson so there are points to prove there too.

PREVIOUS RECORD: 1954: Barbarians 5 New Zealanders 19 (Cardiff). 1964: Barbarians 3 New Zealanders 36 (Cardiff). 1967: Barbarians 6 New Zealanders 11 (Twickenham). 1973: Barbarians 23 New Zealanders 11 (Cardiff). 1974: Barbarians 13 New Zealanders 13 (Twickenham). 1978: Barbarians 15 New Zealanders 18 (Cardiff).

TODAY'S TEAMS AT TWICKENHAM

Barbarians			New Zealand	
A G Hastings (London Scottish)	15	Full Back	J A Gallagher (Wellington)	15
T Underwood (Leicester)	14	Right wing	C R Innes (Auckland)	14
S Hastings (Watsonians)	13	Right centre	N J Schuster (Wellington)	13
J C Guscott (Bath)	12	Left centre	W K Little (North Harbour)	12
R Underwood (Leicester)	11	Left wing	T J Wright (Auckland)	11
A Clement (Swansea)	10	Stand off	G J Fox (Auckland)	10
N C Farr-Jones (Sydney University)	9	Scrum half	G T M Bachop (Canterbury)	9
D M B Sole* (Edinburgh Wand)	1	Prop	S C McDowell (Auckland)	1
B C Moore (Nottingham)	2	Hooker	S B T Fitzpatrick (Auckland)	2
D Young (Cardiff)	3	Prop	R W Loe (Waikato)	3
P M Matthews (Wanderers)	6	Flanker	A T Earl (Canterbury)	6
W A Dooley (Preston G)	4	Lock	M J Pierce (Wellington)	4
P J Ackford (Harlequins)	5	Lock	G W Whetton (Auckland)	5
G W Rees (Nottingham)	7	Flanker	M R Brewer (Otago)	7
P T Davies (Llanelli) *Captain	8	No 8	W T Shelford* (North Harbour) *Captain	8

Referee: C Norling (Wales)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 B J Mullin (London Irish), 17 C Stephens (Llanelli), 18 L F P Aberne (Lansdowne), 19 D C Fitzgerald (Lansdowne), 20 S J Smith (Ballymena), 21 G Jones (Llanelli).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 M J Ridge (Auckland), 17 F M Botica (North Harbour), 18 I B Deans (Canterbury), 19 Z V Brooke (Auckland), 20 A J Whetton (Auckland), 21 G H Purvis (Waikato).

Aggression is best answer to All Blacks

By David Hands

Twenty-eight years ago, before most of today's Barbarians were even a twinkle in the parental eye, another unbeaten touring party rampaged its way through the British Isles. Avril Malan's South Africans played 29 games, in which the only blemish was a draw against the Midlands, before they encountered the Barbarians in Cardiff.

They lost 6-0 on a boggy pitch and the legend grew up around the game that the Baa-baas had, for once, forsaken their traditional cavalier approach for the sake of a win and had beaten the Springboks at their own, forward-dominated game. Like most legends there may be a kernel of truth but the facts are rather more prosaic.

The conditions, on the old-style Arms Park playing surface, were poor; the Barbarians had been forced to make late changes to their team, including the key area of scrum half where Billy Watkins, of Newport, did not know he was playing until less than two hours before the kick-off. He was promptly assisted to off-load a generous lunch before taking the place of Andy Mulligan, whose fluid style was so different from his own.

During the previous 24 hours Brian Jones and Haydn Mainwaring had been brought in at centre and full back respectively. It was no wonder, therefore, that Richard Sharp, at stand-off half, kicked more than was his wont and that the game developed into a forward struggle: "I don't think it was a conscious decision that we should not throw the ball around," Derek Morgan, the England No. 8 who was one of the two try-scorers on the day, said. "It just developed that way.

"There were no instructions from Brigadier Glyn Hughes, the club president. Players decided for themselves. But we desperately wanted to win. We felt the honour of the country's rugby was at stake. Wales had lost 3-0, England 5-0, Ireland 8-3, Scotland 12-5, it had all been so close and the feeling among the players the day before was that we could win."

In that respect, little has changed. David Sole, who captains the Barbarians against New Zealand at Twickenham today, puts it thus: "I don't really play rugby to make up the numbers. I play to win, whoever I play against. It's not going to be an occasion when you expect us to go out and be 15 cavalier good guys against the bad guys.

"We will be going out to win. But everyone is going to have to be firing on all cylinders just to compete on an equal basis. Nevertheless we have some very good players in the team, players who are capable of doing well against the All Blacks. The Barbarians committee wanted a strong team to make it a good game and we all have pride in our own performance.

"It's the sort of pride which grew up during the six weeks of the Lions tour in Australia and ensured that, having won the test series, we still gave a polished performance in the ANZAC match.

"The All Blacks have gone one step further with their racking. The driving play is still there but now the ball is kept in the hand. The basic elements of racking are still what they're doing, though. The way to upset them is to get among them, be aggressive in your tackling, both offensive and defensive tackles, be wholly committed."

Playing to win: David Sole, who leads Barbarians

Glasgow ready to mount challenge for championship

By Alan Lorimer

The McEwan's inter-district championship, which begins today with Edinburgh facing Glasgow at Hughenden and North and Midlands travelling to Netherdale to meet South, has all the indications of being a much closer contest than last year.

Part of this is to do with the renaissance of Glasgow, who after their successful tour of Ireland in September and victory over Fiji in October, are in a confident mood. On home territory, they must feel they can beat Edinburgh, the defending champions, in today's inter-city match.

It is hard enough for Edinburgh to be without their two Barbarians, David Sole and Scott Hastings, but the additional loss of their captain, Iain Milne, whose rib injury forced him to pull out of the side on Thursday, makes their prospects of winning much slimmer.

Alex Brewster, who led Edinburgh to two successive titles in 1986 and 1987, has been recalled as captain and will play at loose-head prop, with Grant Wilson, of Boroughmuir, moving to the other side of the scrum as he did in Japan, when he and Brewster propped for Scotland in the test match.

They will be against the Stirling front row of George Graham, Kevin McKenzie and Brian Robertson who, like Wilson, will want to impress the Scotland B selectors before the announcement of the team to meet Ireland next week.

Equally intriguing will be the battle in the second row where Glasgow, through the GHK pair of Shade Munro and Alan Watt, will have a height advantage over Edinburgh's Jeremy Richardson and Jon Price.

The crucial battle zone is likely to be the back row, and much will depend on the British Isles captain, Finlay Calder, and the Heriot's flanker, Kevin Rafferty.

At Netherdale, South will be fielding a front five which is relatively inexperienced at district level, and that may give North and Midlands cause for optimism despite their late change in the back row, where David McIvor, of Edinburgh Academicals, comes in for the injured Henry Edwards.

North have been strengthened by the return of Iain Paxton and David Leckie to their former district, and they field a back line capable of running the ball effectively, although much will depend on the form of Chris Evans, their new stand-off half and former Oxford Blue.

South should have a considerable advantage in their Scotland breakaway trio of Derek Turnbull, John Jeffrey and Graham Marshall, and at centre, where the selectors have opted to play the new Scotland wing, Tony Stanger, alongside Jedforest's Andy Douglas, a B team contender.

Focus on Sudbury for Bath visit

By David Hands

Whatever happens in west London today, the focal point of the Courage Clubs Championship is north London — Sudbury, to be precise, where the first division clash between Wasps and Bath may well determine this season's honours.

Wasps lead the table from Bath, last season's championship winners who have this month struck one of their stickier patches of the season. They were far from their best against Moseley, and struggled at Orrell last weekend, yet have kept winning.

"Our game is too tense and our fans get het up if we don't win well, even though we have lost only one domestic match," Stuart Barnes, the Bath captain, said. "But we have a good record at Sudbury."

Bath may be without Egerton, the England No. 8 who has damaged ribs, but they will watch with care the progress of Adebayo at centre against two such experienced players as Lozowski and Clough. Adebayo, a wing in his representative days for England schools, replaces Guscott, who is playing against New Zealand at Twickenham.

The Rugby Football Union committee debated yesterday the formula for this season's promotion and relegation, having accepted recommendations to increase the national divisions to 13, and the probability is that there will be no relegation between the second and third divisions.

The Welsh Rugby Union (WRU), which is also thinking of leagues, has rejected the claims of the existing merit table clubs to overall control of the new structure.

A group of 36 clubs, who will form the four national divisions, will have an 8-1 majority over the union on the management committee, each division having two delegates with the WRU providing the chairman.

Newport have appointed Stuart Watkins, the former international wing, as their first team manager. Gareth Evans, the former centre who toured New Zealand with the 1977 British Lions, will coach the club with Neville Johnson, the former prop.

Cambridge University, with only one further game before selection for next month's university match, restore Holmes to their back row against Neath at Grange Road. Reed comes into the centre for a fixture which pits the Davies brothers, Adrian and Graham, against their own club.

Crawshays victorious again

From Owen Jenkins, Dubai

Crawshays won the twentieth Emirates Dubai International seven-a-sides tournament for the second time in three years yesterday after beating the Bahrain Warblers 28-4 in an exhilarating final which produced rugby of sheer passion and excitement. The Warblers and Crawshays, of Wales, were the top seeds for the tournament played on rolled sand at the Dubai Exiles' Club and they progressed to the final without much challenge.

The Warblers, a Bahrain-based international invitation side, won five of their pool matches, scoring 156 points in the process with only four against. They beat Old Belvederes, of Dublin, 34-0 in the quarter-finals and the French champions, Toulouse, 24-6 in the semi-finals with a strong team featuring two Australian internationals and five New Zealand and Hong Kong players.

The Crawshays, pre-tournament favourites, also won all their pool matches with a total of 128 points with 36 against. They were in a tougher group and went on to clinch a place in the final with wins over the Sri Lanka Cavaliers, 26-4, and the Anglo-Scottish side, Thistles 24-8.

The Crawshays, who had Welsh internationals Collins and Titley, were recognized as the best technical side in the tournament and they proved that in the final by totally outplaying the Warblers. The Crawshays' try scorers were Edmunds, Reynolds, Seeley (2) and Parfitt.

North Stand open at Twickenham

Twickenham's new North Stand, while far from complete, will be in use for the first time today when the Barbarians play New Zealand (David Hands writes). Within 20 weeks of the old stand being demolished, the lower deck has been finished, providing 6,200 uncovered seats. It is the first stage of what will eventually be a three-tiered structure accomodating 14,500 spectators.

● Cliff Morgan, the former Wales stand-off half who commentated on the televised 1973 meeting of the Barbarians with New Zealand, returns to the commentary box today to provide match analysis for BBC Radio Two. The entire *Sport on Two* programme will come live from Twickenham.

● The New Zealand *Rugby News* youth team will play the first of two games in England at Bedford tomorrow, when they meet a Midland under-21 side. During their tour, they have lost only once, to Leinster earlier this week, after drawing with the Irish under-21 XV.

HOCKEY

Southgate test vital for Havant

By Sydney Friskin

Southgate's position as leaders of the Poundstretcher National League will be challenged strongly today by Havant at the New River Stadium, White Hart Lane. East Grinstead shared the points with Southgate last Saturday at the same venue after taking the lead and Havant, who drew the corresponding match last season, know that they must take at least a point to remain in contention.

With Slough and Stourport, in fifth and sixth positions respectively, suddenly making the leaders conscious of their presence, prospects are for a more exciting race for the title than seemed likely a couple of weeks ago.

Hounslow, second to Southgate on goal difference and, like the leaders, boasting an unbeaten record, seem to have a comparatively easy task at Feltham against Harborne, third from bottom. Diamond and Swayne are injured and unable to play for Hounslow and there is also a doubt about Pappin, the goalkeeper.

East Grinstead, the fourth club, are likely to severely tested when they visit Welton who have dropped to eighth position but have not given up hope. Van Asselt, East Grinstead's leading scorer, sustained an ankle injury at Southgate and played under a considerable handicap the following day in the Cup match against Cannock, who lost on penalty strokes. However, he expects to be fit.

The relegation worries of Wakefield have not eased despite their 1-1 draw with Old Loughtonians and they will need to improve their work rate in their home match against Slough.

Teddington will have Campling in goal in place of Meredith when they entertain Cannock. D'Mello will be out of action for Teddington because of an injured knee but they still have strong resources in attack with Billson, Barker and Benzies in top form.

St Albans, with a clear four-point lead over Brean in the second division, ought to maintain their advantage when they play Doncaster and Brean themselves seem unlikely to be troubled by Cambridge City. However, Bournville, Neston, Lyons and Gore Court are all playing well and hope to maintain their challenge.

Bromley continue their centenary celebrations with a match tomorrow against an International XI at Newstead Woods School, Orpington. Dodds, Batchelor and Clift are expected to play for the International XI.

MOTOR SPORT

Mitsubishi daring rewarded

By Stephen Slater

When, just two weeks before the start of the Lombard RAC rally, the Italian Lancia team withdrew their entries for the world champion, Miki Biasion and 1988 RAC winner, Markku Alen, there were worries that this year's event might become a damp squid as the key players stayed at home.

The opposite proved true, the 1989 Lombard RAC rally proved to be a classic event. Fast and tough, the initial battle was fought between almost a dozen equally matched cars and drivers, with a Hollywood-style final duel between the veteran driver, Pentti Airikkala and the ambitious young charger, Carlos Sainz, only being resolved in the last 10 competitive miles after five days of flat-out driving.

In the absence of Lancia, who have held the rallying world in a stranglehold for the past three years, three Japanese manufacturers; Mazda, Mitsubishi and Toyota were able to show their potential. All used the latest in high-technology, with turbo-chargers to boost the power of their engines and four-wheel drive to give the ultimate traction out of the corners, but it was the smallest team of the three, Mitsubishi, which had the daring to experiment with four-wheel steering and emerged the winner thanks at least in part to their innovation.

"It makes the car more responsive in tight corners, yet more stable in fast ones," rally winner, Airikkala said . "It means that I don't have to work so hard with the steering. When the battle is tough, or you are tired after five days, that gives you a big advantage."

Airikkala was an outsider at the start of the 1989 event, despite the fact that he is one of the most experienced drivers in the business. This year he dominated the British group N "showroom stock" championship, with the new four-wheel drive, four-wheel steer Galant, but he was only offered the chance to drive the more highly tuned group A car weeks before the RAC rally.

Starting as No. 2 to his fellow expatriate Finn, Ari Vatanen, he assumed leadership of the team when Vatanen lost time after rolling his car on the third day of the event. As Airikkala battled past the Toyotas of Kankkunen and Sainz to take victory on the RAC rally, one team manager commented: "It's nice to see the good guys win".

The interest in the rally extended beyond the rally stages too. Success in the event has meant added interest in the showrooms. "Our dealers have reported their busiest week of the year," said David Miles, of Mitsubishi. "Many people want to know more about the four-wheel steering, but equally important is that this year, the winning car has been an ordinary four-door saloon rather than a sports coupe or small hatchback. That is something we're particularly proud of."

WORLD DRIVERS CHAMPIONSHIP: Final placings: 1, M Biasion (It), 108 pts; 2, A Fiono (It), 65; 3, J Kankkunen (Fin), 60; equal 4, D Aoriol (Fr), M Ericsson (Swe) and A Oreille (Fr), 50; 7, K Eriksson (Swe), 47; 8, I Carlsson (Swe), 43; 9, C Sainz (Sp), 39; 10, M Alen (Fin), 27.

Stewart qualifies third

Paul Stewart, driving with all the skill of his father, Jackie, the three-times world champion, yesterday took third place on the grid for Sunday's Macau Grand Prix (a Special Correspondent writes). Stewart, aged 24, who is the least experienced driver in the field, will line up alongside Allan McNish, a fellow Scot.

This race, around the tortuous four-mile street course in Portugal's Far East colony, is also known as the FIA Formula Three World Cup. Split into two 15-lap sections, it has attracted the best drivers from around Europe.

Faster than Stewart in qualifying were Otto Rensing, of Germany, Steven's Camel Reynard team-mate, in the pole position, and Rickard Rydell, of Sweden.

Andy Rouse, of Coventry, maintained his pole position for the Guia touring car race with his Hutchison Telecom Sierra, and then transferred immediately to a Mazda MX5 sports car to dominate the practice for the so-called Race of the Champions celebrity event.

Steve Hislop, of Scotland, was the fastest qualifier for Sunday's motor cycle grand prix, ahead of Eddie Laycock, of Ireland.

BOWLS

England in danger of elimination

From a Special Correspondent, Hong Kong

Ronnie Gass and Brett Morley, of England, face an agonizing wait this morning before knowing whether they will reach the knock-out stages of the HongkongBank international bowls classic.

Yesterday they finished with one win and one defeat for the fourth successive day, placing them fifth in their 10-team qualifying group. With only four teams going forward to the knock-out stages after this morning's final round of group matches, England are in danger of failing to qualify for the first time in this event.

Morley, of Nottingham, moved to skip yesterday morning, and it looked as if the tactical change may produce the desired effect when England recovered from an early deficit to beat Club De Recreio, a local side, 18-13 after trailing 6-13.

"We had obviously been struggling and Brett and I decided during yesterday's rest day to make the change — we thought it might just pep up our performances," Gass said yesterday.

But after their escape England lost 23-14 to the Fijian partnership of Ram Shanker and Caucau Turagibeci.

This morning England take on Canada, while Ian Ho and George Souza, one of the two Hong Kong sides and England's nearest rival, meet Australia, the section leaders.

Scotland made certain of their place in the quarter-finals with two runaway wins yesterday, while Ireland, too, look poised for a place in the knockout stages.

The Scottish pairing of Graham Robertson and Alex Marshall cruised to a 30-15 win over Barry Salter and John Smith, from Australia's Newcastle district, and then crushed Indian Recreation Club, a local team, 29-5.

Jim Baker and Sammy Allen, of Ireland, added a 21-17 win over Rowan Brassey and Peter Belliss, the world champions, to their earlier 22-17 win over Kowloon Cricket Club, another of the local sides.

21, USA 11; Hong Kong (I Ho, G Souza) 19, Filipino Club Hong Kong 17; England 18, Club de Recreio Hong Kong 13; Craigengower Cricket Club Hong Kong 19, Fiji 17. Eighth round: Fiji 23, England 14; Australia 27, USA 23; Canada 28, Hong Kong 11; Club de Recreio 32, Filipino Club 13; Craigengower Cricket Club 22, Hong Kong FC 18. Section B: Seventh round: New Zealand 28, Hong Kong (N Kennedy, M McMahon 12); Israel 28, Kowloon Bowling Club Hong Kong 5; Scotland 30, Australia (Newcastle District 15); United Services Hong Kong 29, Indian Recreation Club Hong Kong 15; Ireland 22, Kowloon Cricket Club Hong Kong 17. Eighth round: Scotland 29, Indian Recreation Club 5; Ireland 21, New Zealand 17; Kowloon Cricket Club 30, Kowloon Bowling Club 16; Hong Kong 19, United Services 16; Israel 19, Australia 18.

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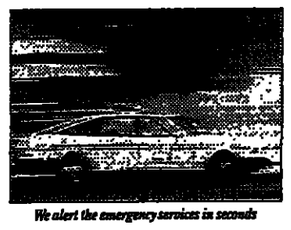
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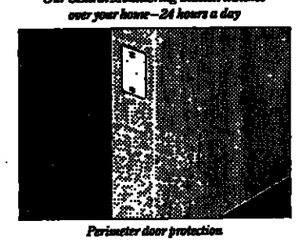
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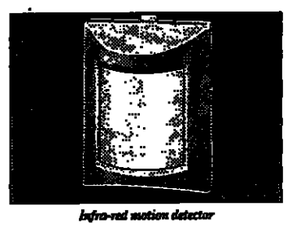
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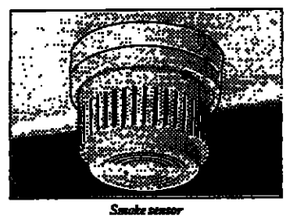
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CRICKET

Boon in punishing form as Australia head for high score

Perth (Reuter) — The Australians picked up against New Zealand where they left off in England by scoring 296 for two yesterday on the first day of the Test match here. David Boon, opening in the absence of Marsh, scored an unbeaten 169.

New Zealand's decision to bowl after winning the toss in the only Test of their short tour proved a misguided one. Their limited attack rarely troubled the Australian batsmen, who look certain to exceed 400 in the first innings for the ninth consecutive Test.

Boon, who failed to score a century in the Ashes series in England last summer, drove and cut superbly and there was never much doubt about him completing his eighth Test century as he relished his restoration to his favourite batting position.

Boon, who is only 15 runs short of his highest Test score, received solid support from Tom Moody in the second session and after tea Allan Border joined him in a thrilling onslaught, hitting 45 not out as 119 runs were scored in 127 minutes.

Boon has so far hit 25 boundaries off an attack which badly missed Richard Hadlee and off spinner John Bracewell, ruled out with a finger injury before the start of play.

Moody, on his Test debut, scored 61 on his home pitch and shared a second wicket partnership of 149 with Boon, who made only one serious error, Wright putting down a scorching chance in the gully off Morrison when Boon, on 73, tried to flick a third successive delivery over the slips.

The Wright-Morrison combination had given New Zealand early hope when a fine catch in the gully, low to his left by Wright, disposed of Mark Taylor, Australia's top scorer in England, after he had made nine.

Boon, quickly showed his intentions by flat-batting a Morrison bouncer back over the bowler's head and took a particular fancy to the bowling of newcomer Chris Cairns, who had 28 runs taken from his first six overs. Moody, however, took 16 minutes to get off the mark and played only five scoring strokes before lunch.

He was lucky to survive in the third over after the interval when he edged a ball from Morrison. The wicketkeeper, Ian Smith, did not move for what was a simple catch and the first slip, Jeff Crowe, diving late, missed the chance.

Moody, a naturally aggressive player, was beginning to open up when he tried to glance Martin Snedden, the pick of the four pace bowlers, and Smith took a simple catch.

Boon reached his century soon after tea by hitting Patel for four and matched Border boundary for boundary as the New Zealanders wilted in the sun.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M A Taylor c Wright b Morrison	9
D C Boon not out	169
T M Moody c Smith b Snedden	61
*A R Border not out	45
Extras (b 1, lb 4, nb 7)	12
Total (2 wkts)	296

D M Jones, S R Waugh, †I A Healy, G F Lawson, M G Hughes, T M Alderman and C Rackemann to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-177.

BOWLING: Morrison 19-5-75-1 (2nb); Cairns 12-2-60-0; Snedden 21-6-52-1 (4nb); Watson 16-2-58-0 (1nb); Patel 19-3-48-0.

NEW ZEALAND: *J G Wright, M D Crowe, C Cairns, J J Crowe, M J Greatbatch, D K Morrison, D N Patel, †I D S Smith, M C Snedden, R H Vance, W Watson.

Umpires: P McConnell and R Evans.

RACING: OLIVER SHERWOOD'S ARCTIC CALL WINS THRILLING NEWBURY DUEL WITH FOLK DANCE

IAN STEWART

Arctic Call (Jamie Osborne, right) taking the last on his way to victory over Folk Dance (Richard Guest) in the Oxfordshire Novices' Chase

Imran polishes off Indian innings

From Qamar Ahmed
Faisalabad

Once the splendid fifth wicket partnership between the youngsters Manjrekar and Tendulkar had been broken, after they had added 143, India collapsed dismally against the new ball and were dismissed for 288 by Pakistan on the second day of the second Test here.

Pakistan, 82 without loss in reply, were strongly placed at the Iqbal Stadium when shadows lengthened over the pitch causing play to be called off with three overs remaining. Earlier play had been halted briefly as a section of schoolboys in the crowd threw stones at Prabhakar who was fielding at mid-wicket.

Ramiz Raja is five short of a half-century and his partner, Aamer Malik, has 26. They flourished after tea and had just made 60 in the previous 20 overs when the umpires took the players off.

There was some fine cutting and cover driving at the expense of Kapil Dev, Prabhakar and the newcomer Vivek Razdan. With so much batting to come it will be surprising if Pakistan do not go on to build a formidable total.

The pitch is playing well and so far there have been no signs of any uneven bounce, although the odd ball turned when Maninder Singh came into the attack late in the day.

India's collapse certainly had nothing to do with the pitch. Manjrekar and Tendulkar had batted as well as they did on the first evening, rarely faltering in technique. Both are short and compact, in Gavaskar mould, and play every shot according to the text book.

They had put on another 44 runs before Tendulkar succumbed to the new ball after making 59, leg before to an inswinger from Imran. His first Test half-century had taken him 224 minutes and included four boundaries.

Eight runs later, Manjrekar edged a ball from Naveed Anjum to first slip where Salim Malik took a catch inches off the ground to give the bowler his first Test wicket.

Kapil Dev lasted only three balls before Anjum swung one in and won the appeal for leg before. India, 263 for seven at lunch, were soon all out for the addition of another 25 runs as Imran, in a fine spell, took three wickets in 5.1 overs, conceding only nine runs, to end with four for 45.

With Saleem Jaffer injured and unable to take part it was a commendable effort by the remaining Pakistan bowlers to dismiss India so cheaply.

Scoreboard

INDIA: First Innings

*K Srikkanth lbw b Akram	36
N S Sidhu c Abbasi b Akram	20
S V Manjrekar c Malik b Anjum	78
M Azharuddin lbw b Akram	0
R J Shastri c Abbasi b Jaffer	11
S Tendulkar lbw b Imran	59
M Prabhakar not out	24
Kapil Dev lbw b Anjum	0
†K S More lbw b Imran	4
Maninder Singh c Raja b Imran	3
V Razdan c sub (Ijaz) b Imran	0
Extras (b 2, lb 16, nb 22, w 15)	55
Total	288

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-68, 2-74, 3-85, 4-101, 5-244, 6-252, 7-253, 8-278, 9-284.

BOWLING: Imran 26.1-7-45-4; Wasim Akram 38-4-107-3; Salim Jaffer 17-4-54-1; Naveed Anjum 29-6-57-2; Abdul Qadir 3-1-7-0.

PAKISTAN: First Innings

Aamer Malik not out	26
Rameez Raja not out	45
Extras (b 1, lb 3, nb 5, w 2)	11
Total (no wkt)	82

Shoaib Mohammad, Javed Miandad, Salim Malik, *Imran Khan, †Nadeem Abbasi, Naveed Anjum, Wasim Akram, Abdul Qadir and Salim Jaffer to bat.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 10-5-20-0; Prabhakar 7-2-21-0; Razdan 5-0-24-0; Maninder Singh 6-2-13-0.

Barlow in talks with Graveney

By Martin Searby

Eddie Barlow's first job in charge of Gloucestershire is to repair the rift which has developed between the county club and David Graveney, its longest-serving player.

Graveney, aged 37, whose dismissal after seven years as captain towards the end of the 1988 season caused a furore, has been offered a reduced basic salary and appearance money for next season; terms he, not surprisingly, finds unsatisfactory after 17 years' service.

Gloucestershire feel that the left-arm spin bowler is not 100 per cent fit but Graveney counters: "I bowled 488 overs in the first-class games with only Courtney Walsh getting through more and I also bowled more overs in the second team than anyone else, despite missing five weeks of the season with knee trouble.

"I appreciate the basic salary structure of the club is top heavy with former captains and vice-captains but that is not my fault and I am willing to discuss some kind of compromise.

"My initial talk with Eddie was the most constructive conversation I have had with anyone at the club for years and I don't want my personal dispute to tarnish his appointment because I think it is good for the county."

Barlow, having listened to Graveney, will make fresh proposals to the committee which should ensure this popular cricketer remains a Gloucestershire player.

He swallowed his pride to play under Bill Athey, who resigned the captaincy after one season, and Graveney's 39 wickets last summer took his total to 788 at an average cost of 28.37 runs.

Tsarella puts Henderson team in buoyant mood

By Michael Seely
Racing Correspondent

The Brown Windsor team of Nicky Henderson and Richard Dunwoody received the perfect boost for today's big-race hopes when the new partnership gained their first joint victory by winning the Arlington Premier Series qualifier at Newbury with Tsarella.

Not to be outdone, Hywel Davies, who will be aboard the strongly fancied Ghofar, also showed himself to be in peak form for the big occasion when winning his fifth race from as many mounts by capturing the Jacky Upton Chase on Clara Mountain for Tim Forster. "And I've got plenty left for Ghofar," said the always enthusiastic and loquacious Welshman.

In the Arlington qualifier Dunwoody and the 6-5 favourite appeared to be in slight trouble when Brendan Powell and Grey Tornado took a slight advantage early in the straight. But the jockey in form was only biding his time and the pair went clear from the next jump to win with untroubled ease by eight lengths.

"Richard gave her a beautiful ride," said Henderson afterwards. "She always jumps to the right and is therefore much better on a right-handed track."

Tsarella, now successful in four of her last five races, is a full sister to the 1987 Grand National runner-up, The Tsarevich, and is owned by her breeder, Judy Maitland-Jones. "She'll for the Arlington final at Cheltenham in January. And then we'll find her a three-mile race over a right-handed course."

Brown Windsor is now a short-priced 2-1 for the Hennessy. "He's in tremendous form and is obviously going to take all the beating," Henderson added. "But although it looks a bad race on paper, the Hennessy is always a tough race to win. Ghofar, Ballyhane and Durham Edition are all going to take a lot of beating."

Despite his disappointment with Grey Tornado and the fact that his jockey, Powell, has now had 30 mounts and gone 16 days without a solitary success to his credit, Chris Popham is still hopeful that Roll-A-Joint is going to give his backers a run for their money. "We'll give Brown Windsor something to think about," said the Somerset trainer. "I only wish that there was a bit more give underfoot."

In the 2½-mile handicap chase, Clara Mountain's task was made easier when Malya fell at the first fence and the favourite, Tarn, came to grief at the second.

Auntie Dot had the upper hand at the third fence from home, but running on the stronger, Clara Mountain went clear to win by 2½ lengths. Mount Parson, the only other survivor, finished two lengths away third.

The 3-1 chance was repeating last year's success in this race for Forster and the 10-year-old's owner, Simon Sainsbury. "We didn't fancy him so much this time," said the Letcombe Bassett trainer. "I thought he'd got a bit bored on the all-weather gallops. It's been the same since September. We got on the grass for a few days, but now it's firmed up again we're back on the all weather."

Forster also had news of his progressive chaser, Pegwell Bay, who recently beat Panto Prince at Kempton. "Basically, he's better on a left-handed track. So we've got to make up our minds whether or not to take on Desert Orchid in the King George. It's a race I like to have a go at."

Grant treble

Chris Grant and Arthur Stephenson kept punters happy at Sedgefield yesterday, landing a treble with three favourites — Ink Splash, Greenheart and Jupiter's Glory. The first two winners run under the banner of the Morley Stud, owned by Sedgefield course chairman Frank Scotto, who was recording his first double in 30 years as an owner. He has now won 91 races.

The Newbury fences also took their toll in the Oxfordshire Novices Chase when the strongly-fancied Young Bavard fell at the first jump. In the straight, the race developed into a duel between Arctic Call, the 5-4 favourite, and Folk Dance.

Although Folk Dance looked to be going the better at the second fence from home, the seven-year-old was flattering only to deceive. Jamie Osborne always had the situation well in hand and Arctic Call went clear on the flat for a comfortable 1½ lengths win.

Arctic Call has now won his only two races over fences for Oliver Sherwood and will now go for the BMW final at Cheltenham on December 8.

"We were sent both this horse and Tonights the Night when Monica Dickinson gave up training," said Sherwood. "Tonights the Night will run in the A F Budge Chase the following afternoon at Cheltenham."

The rest of the afternoon belonged to Ian Balding. The globe-trotting Kingsclere trainer is on holiday in New Zealand but now has the remarkable record of having saddled two winners and a second from only three runners over hurdles. He landed a 63-1 double with Calicon and Tiger Claw. This double certainly ended a drought for Jimmy Frost, who had previously gone 25 mounts without a winner.

In the first division of the Freshman's Novices Hurdle Calicon proved too strong for the Guy Harwood-trained Carmagnole, going clear on the flat to win by two lengths. The stable's second success came when Tiger Claw romped home by four lengths in the second division of this race.

"There wouldn't be much between them," said Patrick Chamings, Balding's assistant. "Tiger Claw might well prove good enough for the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle in due course, but we'll have to wait until Mr Balding gets back from his holiday, before making any firm plans."

Hawkster to prove best in Japan Cup

Hawkster looks to have a first-rate chance of giving the United States its second consecutive Japan Cup success at Tokyo racecourse tomorrow.

Pay The Butler, last year's winner, also lines up for the ninth running of what is now the richest 1½-mile race in the world, with over £1.2 million in prize-money.

As well as the American duo, the 15-strong field for this truly international contest contains three English runners, Carroll House, Assatis and Ibn Bey, Top Sunrise from France and the tough New Zealand mare Horlicks.

On form, Carroll House is the pick of the European contingent. As well as the Arc success on his beloved soft ground, he also beat Assatis on fast going at Newmarket in July.

But Carroll House is undoubtedly more at home with some cut, and the weather forecast suggests he will not get it. Moreover, the four-year-old has begun to go in his coat. But Michael Jarvis is still optimistic that his colt can go close, and if his charge finishes first or second, Jarvis becomes leading overseas trainer of 1989.

Assatis looked the pick of the British contingent when cantering yesterday, and has regained most of the weight he lost on the trip over. Paul Cole is still slightly worried about Ibn Bey's excessive loss of weight.

But it is hard to look beyond Hawkster as the likely winner, despite reports of coughing earlier in the week. Trainer Ron McAnally is now totally satisfied with the physical condition of his three-year-old, and he breezed round the turf track in fine style yesterday morning.

Hawkster set a world record of 2min 22.85sec for 1½ miles when taking the Oak Tree Invitational at Santa Anita on his last start, and had Pay The Butler well behind that day. What's more, Hawkster is well drawn in stall 6, although this should be of minor importance.

Horlicks is tough and talented, but bigger threats may be the home-trained pair of Oguri Cap and Super Creek, with preference for the former.

Mauritius bans African riders

Port Louis (Reuter) — Mauritius has banned an international horse race in Port Louis today because the participants included South African jockeys. Geoffrey Lloyd and Newmarket-based Michael Roberts, the *Le Mauricien* newspaper reported yesterday.

Mauritius has flourishing trade links with South Africa and is a haven for South African holidaymakers, but politically it takes a strong line against apartheid.

TOKYO TOMORROW C4

Going: good to firm **Draw: no advantage**

TV: Recording on Channel 4 at 3.30 tomorrow

6.20am (GMT) JAPAN CUP (Grade I: £587,655: 1m 4f turf) (15 runners)

1	9-1101	TOP SUNRISE (C Schmitt) A Fabre (Fr) 4-9-0		F Head 1
2	12101	HORLICKS (G W de Gruchy) D O'Sullivan (NZ) 6-8-9		L O'Sullivan 2
3	1-1121	OGURI CAP (T Kondo) T Setoguchi 4-9-0		K Mikel 3
4	01111	IBN BEY (F Salman) P Cole (GB) 5-9-0		T Quinn 4
5	10212	BAMBOO MEMORY (S Takada) K Take 4-9-0		M Matsunaga 5
6	010-11	SUPER CREEK (M Kikura) S Ito 4-9-0		Y Take 6
7	11040	RUNNING FREE (T Fujishima) K Hongo 6-9-0		Y Sugawara 7
8	01111	HAWKSTER (Mr and Mrs J Mesdith) R McAnally (US) 3-8-9		R Baze 8
9	11000	KURI ROWER (Hokkai Farm) T Shimizu 4-9-0		Y Shibata 9
10	39020	FRESH VOICE (K Enjo) N Saton 6-9-0		H Matoba 10
11	31011	CARROLL HOUSE (Z Yoshida) M Jarvis (GB) 4-9-0		M J Kinane 11
12	03120	INARI ONE (T Hotshama) K Suzuki 5-9-0		M Shibata 12
13	11201	ROSITA (T Kato) K Fukushima 3-8-5		T Nozaki 13
14	03022	PAY THE BUTLER (K Hayata) R Frankel (US) 5-9-0		C McCarron 14
15	1-1211	ASSATIS (S Harada) G Harwood (GB) 4-9-0		R Cochrane 15

BETTING: 4-1 Hawkster, 5-1 Pay The Butler, 6-1 Assatis, Super Creek, 7-1 Carroll House, Oguri Cap, 8-1 Ibn Bey, 12-1 Top Sunrise, 14-1 Inari One, 16-1 others.

Victoria seize the initiative

Melbourne (Reuter) — Jamie Siddons and Wayne Phillips scored a century each yesterday as Victoria took the Sri Lankan bowling apart to reach 315 for five wickets at the end of the first day of this four-day match.

Siddons scored his ninth first-class century in just over three hours before being caught for 113 off Rumesh Ratnayake shortly after tea; Phillips recorded his highest first-class score of 134 as they added 203 in even time for the third wicket.

Siddons, out of form at the start of the season, regained his place in the side only because Dean Jones is playing for Australia against New Zealand. But he made the most of his opportunity, driving and cutting powerfully in a scintillating innings. Phillips was more solid, taking three hours to reach his 50 before accelerating to hit his second century for Victoria.

After Victoria won the toss and chose to bat, Ravi Ratnayeke took the wickets of both openers with just seven runs on the board. But the touring side had to wait over three hours for another wicket, scalp.

VICTORIA: First Innings

G Watts b Ravi Ratnayake	4
I Frazer c Mahanama b Ravi Ratnayake	0
W Phillips c A Ranatunga b Jayasuriya	134
J Siddons c Wickremesinghe b Rumesh Ratnayake	113
G Parker c Mahanama b Rumesh Ratnayake	8
S O'Donnell not out	28
D Fleming not out	2
Extras (lb 8, nb 20)	26
Total (5 wkts)	315

M Dimattina, P McIntyre, P Jackson and P Reiffel to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-7, 3-210, 4-233, 5-305.

BOWLING: Ravi Ratnayake 16-2-50-2; Rumesh Ratnayake 20-0-81-2 (12nb); Wijegunawardene 11-1-53-0 (3nb); Asoka de Silva 16-3-53-0 (4nb); Aravinda de Silva 13-1-43-0 (1nb); Jayasuriya 7-2-17-1; Ranatunga 5-0-12-0.

Cartwright's vivid Hennessy memory

By Christopher Goulding

Today's Hennessy Gold Cup has an illustrious roll of honour over its 32 years, both equine and human. And, for a jockey, the 6½ minutes that it takes to cover 3¼ miles over Newbury's demanding 20 fences is never forgotten.

David Cartwright, the successful rider in 1971 with Bighorn, can remember the momentous event in great detail. Now the head groundsman at Wincanton racecourse, Cartwright manicures fences which he once jumped.

"I can recall the race like it happened yesterday," said Cartwright. "Bighorn won his preparation race in good style and I was pretty confident as the ground also suited him.

"There was only one way to ride the old fella. You had to switch him off and come with a run after the second last fence. They made Spanish Steps favourite but he went at the fourteenth."

Jumping the cross fence, five from home, Cartwright was urged to go for home. "David Nicholson, who was on Tantulum, shouted 'kick on, my boy' which I thought was very surprising as he had said he would win. We had a side bet that the winner would buy the loser a new suit."

Turning into the home straight, Cartwright patiently waited for his moment to pounce. "I kept away from the inside rail which was fortunate as there was quite a bit of grief where Grey Sombrero came down and took Royal Toss with him. At the second last I let him go and from then on it was all over."

Bighorn later took his chance in the Cheltenham Gold Cup. "He never showed his form that day and nearly collapsed after the race," said Cartwright. "At his best he was very good and would have been capable of winning a Gold Cup."

Cartwright is astounded by today's prize-money. "It was only a £6,000 race in my day and I didn't even get a bottle of brandy. And David Nicholson did not get his suit, but he's not doing too badly, is he?"

With a career total of 300 winners, Cartwright would still be riding today if it was not for advancing years. "If your body could still keep going like your enthusiasm, not many jockeys would retire. I loved riding. You never get it out of your system."

Cartwright's role on race-days now is to patrol the course in readiness to prevent accidents when a horse or a jockey is prostrate on the track.

Wincanton, where Cartwright has been for nine years, is a traditional course with no gimmicks. "It's popular with the crowds because trainers run good horses here. The course has a traditional formula which works and it would be folly to change things.

"We try to make it a fair test. My philosophy is to present fences that both horse and jockey are aware of. The last thing you want are complaints about horses being on the floor.

"I enjoy the job. It's both physical and worrying. The first meeting I was in charge, I couldn't bare to watch and hid in the back of the grandstand."

For today's Hennessy, Cartwright nominates Roll-A-Joint. But in years to come his choice well be prejudiced if his son, Richard, manages to follow in his stirrups.

Mulhern's hope tries for repeat

The John Mulhern-trained Wolf Of Badenoch, who a year ago made most of the running to beat Weather The Storm by an easy six lengths in the Fortria Handicap Chase at Navan, attempts a repeat there today under top weight (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

This will be his first start since disappointing in the Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham in March but his stable has already hit form with Hungary Hur winning a similar type of handicap at Naas.

The veteran Bobsline, who finished fourth in last year's race and now meets the winner on 15lb better terms, could be the danger in this eight-horse field as his fitness has been well proved with wins over fences and hurdles.

Paddy Mullins, who has a good team of novice chasers, introduces Derrymore Boy to fences in the Kilberry Novice Chase. He finished sixth in the Ladbroke Hurdle at Leopardstown in January when trying to give his successful stable companion, Redundant Pal, 15lb.

The opposition here includes Mixed Blends, a mare who fell in her first chase and then ran second to The Gooser at Clonmel.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Nottingham, Catterick Bridge.

TUESDAY: Huntingdon, Newton Abbot.

WEDNESDAY: Hereford, Hexham.

THURSDAY: Warwick, Carlisle, Lingfield Park (AW).

FRIDAY: Sandown Park, Bangor, Southwell (AW).

SATURDAY: Sandown Park, Chepstow, Wetherby, Nottingham.

(Flat meetings in bold type)

Yesterday's results

Newbury

Going: good to firm (back straight good)

1.0 (2m 100yd hdle) 1. CALICON (J Frost, 7-1); 2. Carmagnole (M Perrett, 5-4 fav); 3. Dutch Majesty (J Hails, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Northern Warrior (pu), 8 Lazy Rhythm (4th), 10 Al Diffa (ur), Security Alert (pu), 16 Muirfield Village (5th), 20 Silk Dynasty (f), 33 Christmas Hols, Kwi (pu), Runner Duck (6th). 12 ran. 2l, 12l, 5l, 6l, 3l. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £10.60; £2.00, £1.30, £3.90. DF: £8.60. CSF: £16.13.

1.30 (3m ch) 1. ARCTIC CALL (J Osborne, 5-4 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2. Folk Dance (R Guest, 3-1); 3. Foxcapes (M Lynch, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 Young Bavard (f), 20 Ten In Hand (4th), 5 ran. 11½l, 25l, 10l. O Sherwood at Lambourn. Tote: £1.90; £1.30, £1.30. DF: £2.50. CSF: £5.14. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

2.0 (2m 4f ch) 1. TSARELLA (R Dunwoody, 6-5 fav); 2. Grey Tornado (B Powell, 13-8); 3. Mumsendah (M Lynch, 4-1). 3 ran. 8l, dist. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £1.90. DF: £1.70. CSF: £3.00.

2.30 (2m 4f ch) 1. CLARA MOUNTAIN (H Davies, 3-1); 2. Auntie Dot (M Lynch, 100-30); 3. Mount Parson (G McCourt, 11-4). ALSO RAN: 2 fav Tarn (ur), 25 Malya Mal (ur). 5 ran. 2½l, 2l. T Forster at Letcombe Bassett. Tote: £3.70; £2.00, £1.80. DF: £5.00. CSF: £12.20.

3.0 (2m 100yd hdle) 1. TIGER CLAW (J Frost, 7-1); 2. Robbie Burns (R Goldstein, 13-2); 3. Sea Buck (S Hodgson, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Midfielder (4th), 11-2 Crystal Heights (5th), 6 Glenstal Abbey (6th), 14 Golden Vintage, 33 Cheeky Fox, Hitsam, Lakeside Lass (pu), 10 ran. NR: Iveagh House. 4l, 4l, 3l, 2½l, 25l. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £5.90; £1.90, £1.80, £2.30. DF: £11.30. CSF: £48.46.

3.30 (2m 4f 120yd hdle) 1. KINGS FOLLY (S Davies, 14-1); 2. Stoney Creek (A Tory, 12-1); 3. Platonic Affair (R Supple, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 5 jt-fav Slave King, Katarmo (pu), 11-2 Bel Course, 6 Tuns Hill (5th), Gaelic Frolic, 14 Record Dancer (pu), 20 Cut'N Dry, Golden Sonata (4th), 33 Derby Day (8th). 12 ran. NR: Great Morning, Lalosse. Bold Fury. 2l, 3l, 7l, ¾l, 7l. W Price at Ebbw Vale. Tote: £13.20; £3.10, £4.30, £1.80. DF: £104.00. CSF: £159.63. Tricast: £952.82.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £6,270.10 carried forward to Newbury today).

Placepot: £132.80.

Leicester

Going: firm (chase course); good to firm (hurdles)

12.45 (2m hdle) 1. LETTEREWE (S Smith Eccles, 10-1); 2. Return To Romance (J Lodder, 4-11 fav); 3. Pica Sword (B de Haan, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Fanata (4th), 12 Xafu Xafu (pu), 33 Doctor's Remedy (5th), Woodlands Grey (6th). 7 ran. 1½l, 8l, 2l, 15l, 8l. G Pritchard-Gordon at Newmarket. Tote: £9.50; £3.40, £1.10. DF: £3.50. CSF: £13.82.

1.15 (2m hdle) 1. OLYMPIC CHALLENGER (S J O'Neill, 8-1); 2. Toscana (B de Haan, 4-1); 3. Fairfield Lad (S Smith Eccles, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Eleven Lights (pu), 3 Brilliant Bay (4th), 13-2 Leacroft (f), 33 Couture Tights (5th), Abadare (6th), 8 ran. NR: Patrick James. 8l, 1½l, 1½l, ½l, 3l. J Mackie at Church Broughton. Tote: £12.70; £2.10, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £8.50. CSF: £38.79.

1.45 (2m ch) 1. LONDON LEADER (B Dowling, 1-3 fav); 2. African Safari (R Strange, 5-2). 2 ran. 12l. R Lee at Prestegne. Tote: £1.40.

2.15 (2m hdle) 1. MONARU (P Scudamore, 8-15 fav); 2. Tephard (S Keightley, 14-1); 3. Drumstick (R Beggan, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Good For The Roses (4th), 16 Ullswater (5th), Tredara, 20 Children's Joie (6th), 25 Stansted Flyer, 33 Wooly Rags (pu) 9 ran. ¾l, 8l, 7l, 2½l, 2l. M Pipe at Wellington Tote: £1.70; £1.20, £2.00, £4.20. DF: £9.50. CSF: £10.75.

2.45 (2m hdle) 1. MILTON BRYAN (V Smith, 9-2); 2. Saskia's Reprieve (A Bottomley, 7-4); 3. L'Uomo Piu (J Tuite, 4-5 fav). 3 ran. ½l, ¾l. J Fitch-Hayes at Lewes. Tote: £2.80. DF: £5.60. CSF: £10.51.

3.0 (3m ch) 1. CELTIC CRACKLE (R Strange) walked over. P Cundell at Compton.

Placepot: £24.50.

Sedgefield

Going: good

12.45 (2m hdle) 1. Welsh Guard (R Garrity, 11-10 fav). 2. Noble Prospect (9-2); 3. Sky Watcher (14-1). 8 ran. NR: Bellepheron 15s. 2½-l. R Thompson. Tote: £2.10, £1.10, £1.70. £2.60. DF: £5.00. CSF: £7.25. Tricast: £45.76.

1.15 (3m 2f 160yd hdle) 1. Ink Splash (C Grant, 6-4). 2. New Kingsgrove (9-2); 3. Some Machine (10-1). The Pike 5-4 fav 5 ran. 3l, 6l. W A Stephenson. Tote: £2.30; £1.60, £2.10. DF: £5.80. CSF: £8.25.

1.45 (3m 2f 160yd ch) 1. Miss Club Royal (M Dwyer, 4-5 fav); 2. Lingham Bride (Evans) 2 ran. 12l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £1.60.

2.15 (2m ch) 1. Greenheart (C Grant, 4-11 fav); 2. Ground Master (16-1); 3. Osins Castle (25-1). 4 ran. 15l, 8l. W A Stephenson. Tote: £1.40. DF: £4.90. CSF: £5.58.

2.45 (2m 4f ch) 1. Sword Beach (L Wyer, 1-2 fav); 2. Kamsel (13-2). Kates Fling (15-2). 12 ran. 3l, 2l. M H Easterby. Tote: £1.80, £1.60, £2.20, £2.30. DF: £3.50. CSF: £5.22.

3.15 (3m 2f 160yd hdle) 1. Jupiter's Glory (C Grant, 4-7 fav), 2. Brilliant Wish (2-1); 3. Lady Token (14-1). 9 ran 4l, 2l. W A Stephenson. Tote: £1.80, £1.30, £1.30. £1.30. DF: £1.70. CSF: £2.40. Positive Way, 12-1, was withdrawn not under orders Rule 4 applies to all bets, a deduction of 5p in pound.

Placepot: £17.20.

CYCLING

Douce hopes to wipe out Baker's lead

By Peter Bryan

Steve Douce, national cyclo-cross champion for the last five years, goes into tomorrow's second round of the Falcon National Trophy competition trailing David Baker, the 1988 winner, by four points.

Baker scored maximum points in the opening race last month, attacking to take the lead when Douce fell, leaving the Woking professional to finish second. An overnight frost will make the going fast at Temple Newsham, Leeds tomorrow, especially on the long grassland straight.

Douce did not start in the Nations Cup last weekend because of injury and said yesterday that he is still in pain from a bruised ribcage after a crash in Spain.

Both Britons will have more than each other to watch; Eric Vervaet, the former Belgian champion who won in Leeds last year, will again be among the starters. In the junior event Roger Hammond, aged 15, is likely to lead the way after his third place in the Nations Cup.

If the age rules were strictly applied, Hammond would not be allowed to race in junior events but officials, keen to encourage his talent to develop, have given special dispensation for his upgrading.

FISHING

When profit becomes the overriding factor

By Conrad Voss Bark

Reservoir fishermen are becoming apprehensive about their future under the newly-privatized water companies. In some areas, business staff have been appointed to the new companies to see how profits can be made or increased from the recreational use of reservoirs, such as from sailing and other water sports.

Fishermen are concerned about the possibility that there are many more and better ways to making profits from the public use of reservoirs than providing fishing for stocked trout. Before privatization, fishing on many of the big water supply reservoirs was run at a loss, or under a policy of "break even", with costs often absorbed under other headings.

Reservoir fishing produces costs and problems which do not affect other water sports. There are fish diseases, the deadly eyefluke, furunculosis, and stress problems from hatchery fish. There is the recent problem of blue-green algae, which has already closed several reservoirs this season.

In some reservoirs fishing has been made impossible by the spread of weed, particularly the Canadian pond weed, and on one big reservoir it was estimated that two weed cuts in a year might need 10 boats and cost as much as £1,000 a week while cutting took place.

In the old days, before privatization, there were regular meetings between angling organizations and the public water authorities. Anglers were closely involved in the decisions taken about the fishing. In the future, it may be doubtful if this level of customer involvement will continue. Profit will become more and more the important factor.

Studies of profitability which are now being started are expected to show greater returns from leasing the water to sailing clubs, allowing powerboat racing or surfboarding.

One famous reservoir fishery found that fishing costs are escalating alarmingly. Wages are up to £150,000 a year, fish food and hatchery upkeep £70,000, general maintenance £20,000, with other unknown problems, such as disease, which are likely to be expensive to control.

During the last four years, stringent economies were made by most of the public water authorities, including the leasing of fishing at some 10 reservoirs to private companies. But concentrating on other water sports may still be more profitable.

Brown Windsor for starring role

By Mandarin

Brown Windor can become only the fourth horse, following Taxidermist, Arkle and April Seventh, to win both the Whitbread Gold Cup and the Hennessy Gold Cup, today's feature at Newbury, in the same year.

Despite his limited experience over fences, the seven-year-old put up an excellent performance in the Whitbread on his sixth outing over fences.

Since the weights were announced, the Nicky Henderson-trained gelding has been a prominent ante-post favourite, and this was accentuated a fortnight ago when he won at Sandown.

On the Esher course, he had little to beat in Southernair and Secret Rite, but his manner of winning could not be faulted.

In the Whitbread, Brown Windsor had two Cheltenham Gold Cup winners behind him and also Durham Edition, one of his seven rivals today.

On his reappearance at Wetherby, Durham Edition put up an impressive performance when beating Ballyhane, who carries top weight today.

Two seasons ago, Durham Edition finished third to Playschool in the Hennessy, when carrying 11lb less than today. At Wetherby, I feel he was probably flattered as he is a horse that comes to hand early. At today's weights, Ballyhane has a tough task.

However, the principal danger looks to be Roll-A-Joint, the winner of last season's Scottish Grand National.

Last season, Roll-A-Joint was a credit to his trainer, Chris Popham, as he continued to improve and finished his campaign with seven victories from nine outings.

Now an 11-year-old, it is hard to visualize the chestnut improving further, but at Wincanton recently he showed his well-being when chasing home Desert Orchid in a match.

However, I feel Brown Windsor has considerable scope for improvement, and can compensate Henderson for failing to pull off the race in 1979 with Zongalero, runner-up to Fighting Fit.

The Gerry Feilden Hurdle has attracted two of the best novice hurdlers from last year in Morley Street and Cruising Altitude. Both horses showed outstanding ability in their first season hurdling and both failed to show their best form at the Cheltenham Festival.

However, both went on to redeem themselves. Morley Street won at Liverpool where he showed the form to be wrong. Cruising Altitude has had an outing this season and comprehensively beat some moderate rivals.

Of the others, Wishlon is held by Decided, who was well down the field when Crusing Altitude finished third behind Sondrio at Cheltenham.

Despite not having had a seasonal outing, I feel Morley Street has the edge over Cruising Altitude using Lalitpour as a yardstick.

Barnbrook Again, who flabbergasted his trainer, David Elsworth, at Kempton where he fell and was found to have had a heart irregularity, has a simple task in the North Street Handicap Chase.

At Newcastle, **Kribensis** can open his seasonal account on a winning note for third successive time in the Food Brokers And Primula Fighting Fifth Hurdle. The Michael Stoute-trained grey lost his unbeaten record in last season's Champion Hurdle where he was not disgraced when seventh to Beech Road.

Today's fast ground has prevented Beech Road from running, and the principal danger will be Osric. Two seasons ago, Osric showed he was a very useful performer when winning the Top Rank Christmas Hurdle from Aldino. Despite his considerable absence from hurdling, he is fit from recent outings on the Flat.

In the John Smiths Bitter Handicap Hurdle, **Persillant** looks worthy of a nap. Last season, the bay lost nothing in defeat when his winning run of three was stopped at Kempton, where he was fourth to Battalion. A recent outing on the Flat should have put him straight.

Michael Stoute's talented grey Kribensis makes his seasonal reappearance in Newcastle's Fighting Fifth Hurdle

HENNESSY LINE-UP BBC1

1.50 HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Listed race: £30,271: 3m 2f 82yd) (8 runners)

301 323B1-2 BALLYHANE 21 (F,G,S) (C) (H Joel) J Gifford 8-11-10 ... R Rowe 97
(Black, scarlet cap)
302 115P-41 MR FRISK 8 (F,G,S) (D) (Mrs H Duffey) K Bailey 10-11-8 ... Mr M Armytage 92
(Green and red quartered, yellow sleeves, red cap)
303 24131-1 BROWN WINDSOR 21 (F,G,S) (C) (W Shand Kydd) N Henderson 7-11-3 ... R Dunwoody 93
(White and yellow stripes, royal blue sleeves and cap)
304 52150-1 DURHAM EDITION 21 (F,G,S) (R Oxley) W A Stephenson 11-11-2 (5ex) ... A Merrigan 98
(Light blue, dark blue seams, light blue cap)
305 31111-2 ROLL-A-JOINT 16 (G,S) (CD) (R Thomas Williams) C Popham 11-10-8 ... B Powell 90
(Yellow, red star, armlets and star on cap)
306 42220-3 GALA'S IMAGE 17 (F,G,S) (C) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) J McConnochie 9-10-6 ... J Shortt 94
(Red, black chevrons on body)
307 2114-02 GHOFAR 7 (F,G,S) (B) (Sir Hugh Dundas) D Elsworth 6-10-0 ... H Davies ● 99
(White, black diamond, purple sleeves and cap)
308 54/11-21 SOLIDASAROCK 17 (F,G,S) (C) (L Randall) R Akehurst 7-10-0 ... P Scudamore 80
(Red and white halved, sleeves reversed, red and white hooped cap)

Long handicap: Ghofar 9-3, Solidasarock 8-6.

BETTING: 7-4 Brown Windsor, 4-1 Durham Edition, 5-1 Ballyhane, 6-1 Ghofar, Roll-A-Joint, 12-1 Gala's Image, Solidasarock, 20-1 Mr Frisk.

1988: STRANDS OF GOLD 9-10-0 P Scudamore (10-1) M Pipe 12 ran

Form guide to the eight contenders

BALLYHANE
Nov 4, Wetherby, good: see Durham Edition.
Apr 4, Sandown, good: (12-0) beat Dinny Walsh (10-0) short head (3m 118yd, £5,378, 5 ran).
Mar 16, Cheltenham, heavy: (12-0) brought down three out in Gold Cup won by Desert Orchid (12-0) (3m 2f, £66,371, 13 ran).

MR FRISK
Nov 17, Ascot, good to firm: (11-13) left clear at the last when beating Contradeal (10-9) 30l (3m, £4,560, 4 ran).
Nov 4, Cheltenham, good: (11-11) distant last to Ace Of Spies (10-3) (3m, £4,425, 4 ran).
Apr 29, Sandown, good to soft: see Brown Windsor.

BROWN WINDSOR
Nov 4, Sandown, good: (11-7) beat Southernair (11-7) 20l (2m 4f 68yd, good).
Apr 29, Sandown, good to soft: (10-0) beat Sam Da Vinci (10-0) a neck in Whitbread with Durham Edition (10-0) 11th and Mr Frisk (10-7) pulled up (3m 5f 18yd, £45,900, 18 ran).
Mar 15, Cheltenham, soft: (11-4) 1¾l 3rd to Envopak Token (11-4) with Ghofar (11-4) 30l 4th (3m, £35,627, 15 ran).

DURHAM EDITION
Nov 4, Wetherby, good: (11-2) beat Ballyhane (11-2) 8l (3m 100yd, £18,895, 7 ran).
Apr 29, Sandown, good to soft: see Brown Windsor.
Apr 8, Liverpool, heavy: (10-11) 18¼l 5th to Little Polveir (10-3) in Grand National with Gala's Image (10-11) 10½l away in 7th (4m 4f, £66,840, 40 ran).

ROLL-A-JOINT
Nov 9, Wincanton, good: (10-8) 12l 2nd to Desert Orchid (12-0) in match (3m 1f, good).
Apr 15, Ayr, heavy: (10-0) beat Charter Hardware (10-0) 1½l in Scottish National (4m 120yd, £25,750, 11 ran).
Mar 31, Newbury, good: (10-1) beat Sunbeam Talbot (10-0) 10l (3m 2f 82yd, £4,776, 6 ran).

GALA'S IMAGE
Nov 8, Newbury, good: see Solidasarock.
Apr 8, Liverpool, heavy: see Durham Edition.
Mar 16, Cheltenham, heavy: (10-7) 12l 2nd to Dixton House (11-0) (3m 1f, £23,480, 16 ran).

GHOFAR
Nov 18, Ascot, good to firm: (11-5) 1½l 2nd to Man O'Magic (11-5) (2m 4f, £23,820, 11 ran).
Nov 11, Cheltenham, good: (11-5) 26l 8th to Highland Bounty (10-4) in handicap hurdle (2m, £14,020, 10 ran).
Mar 15, Cheltenham, soft: see Brown Windsor.

SOLIDASAROCK
Nov 8, Newbury, good: (10-9) beat Master Bob (12-0) 2l with Gala's Image (12-0) 12l away 3rd (3m, £3,525, 6 ran).
Oct 27, Newbury, firm: (10-4) 12l 2nd to Royal Cedar (10-4) (3m, £3,525, 4 ran).
Oct 20, Taunton, firm: (12-0) beat Le Carotte (11-7) easy 3l (3m, £1,751, 13 ran).

Selection: GHOFAR

NEWBURY

Selections
By Mandarin

12.45 Barnbrook Again. 1.15 Morley Street. 1.50 Brown Windsor. 2.20 Bitter Buck. 2.50 Celtic Shot. 3.20 Bordeaux Beau.

By Michael Seely
1.15 CRUISING ALTITUDE (nap). 1.50 Brown Windsor.

Going: good to firm

12.45 NORTH STREET HANDICAP CHASE (£8,292: 2m 160yd) (5 runners) BBC 1

101 3/1111-F BARNBROOK AGAIN 10 (CD,BF,G,S) (M Davies) D Elsworth 8-12-0 ... B Powell 95
102 22105P- MR KEY 231 (CD,G,S) (J McManus) D Murray Smith 8-10-4 ... M Bowlby ● 99
103 5/54154- COTTAGE RUN 301 (CD,G,S) (Mrs M Rogers) D Nicholson 9-10-1 ... J Osborne 98
104 61154-2 SPRINGHOLM 15 (CD,F,G,S) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 7-10-0 ... R Dunwoody 94
105 22-4151 GREY TORNADO 29 (C,D,F) (D Short) C Popham 8-10-0 ... S McNeill 74

Long handicap: Springholm 9-11, Grey Tornado 8-0.

BETTING: 4-5 Barnbrook Again, 7-2 Springholm, 5-1 Mr Key, 7-1 Cottage Run, 20-1 Grey Tornado.

1988: COTTAGE RUN 8-11-10 R Dunwoody (8-13 fav) D Nicholson 4 ran

FORM FOCUS BARNBROOK AGAIN was unbeaten in 4 starts last term and rounded off season with an impressive 4l defeat of Royal Stag in the Champion Chase at Cheltenham (2m, soft) in March. Started a warm favourite for reappearance at Kempton (2m 4f, good) earlier this month but was well behind when falling at the 12th behind Pegwell Bay. Was found to have an irregular heart beat and that run is best forgotten.
MR KEY scored at Newton Abbot (2m 150yd, good) last term but became disappointing thereafter and was pulled up on final outing behind Ferodo at Liverpool (2m, heavy) in April. COTTAGE RUN races off a 7lb higher mark than when beating Harley Street Man in this race last year (good). Having first outing since finishing last of 4 to Paddyboro at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good to soft) in January
SPRINGHOLM, a course and distance winner three times, kept on well to finish a 3l 2nd to subsequent scorer Star's Delight at Cheltenham (2m, good) in November.
Selection: BARNBROOK AGAIN

1.15 GERRY FEILDEN HURDLE (Feature race: £10,227: 2m 100yd) (9 runners) BBC 2

201 31130-5 WISHLON 21 (CD,F,G) (Miss D Smyth) R Smyth 6-11-6 ... R Goldstein ● 99
202 111F3-1 CRUISING ALTITUDE 24 (CD,F,G) (Mrs C Heath) O Sherwood 6-11-3 ... J Osborne 90
203 111141- MORLEY STREET 231 (C,D,F,G,S) (Salehurst Paper Co Ltd) G Balding 5-11-3 ... J Frost 93
204 11431-5 ROYAL DERBI 15 (D,F,S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 4-11-3 ... H Davies 96
205 30102-2 DECIDED 35 (CD,F,S) (R Green) Miss H Knight 6-11-0 ... P Scudamore 92
206 211302- MAGNUS PYM 36F (D,S) (R Standbridge) D Elsworth 4-11-0 ... G Bradley 83
207 2-32F22 NAHAR 14 (D,G) (R Cross) S Dow 4-11-0 ... D Murphy 83
208 1120- NOMADIC WAY 22F (B,D,BF,F) (R E Sangster) B Hills 4-11-0 ... K Mooney 81
209 1151F-0 FAIRFIELDS CONE 10 (D,G,S) (Mrs C Holder) R Dickin 6-10-9 ... M Jones 73

BETTING: 5-2 Cruising Altitude, 7-2 Decided, 4-1 Morley Street, 5-1 Wishlon, 7-1 Royal Derbi, 12-1 Nahar, Nomadic Way, 16-1 Magnus Pym, 25-1 Fairfields Cone.

1988: KRIBENSIS 4-11-6 R Dunwoody (8-11 fav) M Stoute 5 ran

FORM FOCUS WISHLON, a useful novice last term when successful three times, kept on at one pace when a 7¾l 5th to Dare Say on Sandown (2m, good) reappearance and can reverse finishing positions with 2nd placed NAHAR on 22lb better terms.
CRUISING ALTITUDE had DECIDED (17th) well behind when a 19l 3rd to Sondrio at Cheltenham (2m, good to soft) in March. Quickened nicely to beat Tom Troubadour by 3l on reappearance here (2m 4f 120y, good).
MORLEY STREET met defeat only once in six starts last term and was particularly impressive when running on strongly to beat Trapper John by 1½l at Liverpool (2m 4f, heavy) in April
ROYAL DERBI finished the season with an impressive 10l defeat of Lunulae at Punchestown (2m, heavy) in April. Was disappoining on Cheltenham (2m, good) reappearance when a 30¾l 5th to Persian Style.
DECIDED had WISHLON (3rd) and FAIRFIELDS CONE (5th) behind when beating Sudden Victory by 3l at Kempton (2m, soft) in May. Put in a fair effort when a short-head 2nd to Aldino on Kempton (2m, good) reappearance but would prefer softer ground.
NOMADIC WAY is well suited by a fast surface as showed when beating Peer Prince by ¾l at Ascot (2m, good to firm) last November.
Selection: CRUISING ALTITUDE (nap)

1.50 HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Listed race: £30,271: 3m 2f 82yd) (8 runners) BBC 1

FOR CARD SEE ABOVE

2.20 SPEEN NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £3,174: 2m 100yd) (12 runners)

401 34-2 ATLAAL 17 (BF) (O Donnelly) J Jenkins 4-11-0 ... R Dunwoody 98
402 BOHEA DESTROYER 23F (T Smith) P Burgoyne 4-11-0 ... C Cox —
403 00003- EASTERN EVENING 180 (K Poulton) J Long 4-11-0 ... Mr J Poulton 68
404 2-5 EDDIES FELLA 10 (K Edwards) R Holder 4-11-0 ... N Coleman 72
405 FOX'S FROLIC (N Clark) N Henderson 4-11-0 ... P Harley (7) —
406 55- HOWJAL 180 (P Rackham) J Bostock 4-11-0 ... S McNeill —
407 36420-3 LE CHAT NOIR 23 (Lady Harmsworth-Blunt) D Grissell 6-11-0 ... H Davies 83
408 LOCAL WHISPER (Mrs C Harrington) D Elsworth 5-11-0 ... B Powell —
409 060- MANNYS CHOICE 238 (R Smale) A Moore 4-11-0 ... G Moore 59
410 00/00- RIVER KINGDOM 303 (G Smith) J Redmond 6-11-0 ... P Leech (7) —
411 61- YABOYAA 224 (D,S) (H Joel) J Gifford 5-11-0 ... R Rowe —
412 2- BITTER BUCK 315 (BF) (D Horton) C Brooks 6-10-9 ... P Scudamore ● 99

BETTING: 4-6 Bitter Buck, 4-1 Yaboyaa, 5-1 Local Whisper, 8-1 Atlaal, Fox's Frolic, 12-1 Le Chat Noir, 16-1 others.

1988: WISHLON 5-11-0 M Dwyer (3-1) R Smyth 25 ran

2.50 HOPEFUL CHASE (£4,467: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

501 24/4F0-3 AMRULLAH 8 (T Thorn) J Bridger 9-11-0 ... G Moore —
502 462313- CELTIC SHOT 231 (BF,G,S) (D Horton) C Brooks 7-11-0 ... P Scudamore —
503 05/660-5 EARL SOHAM 38 (G Hubbard) J Gifford 5-11-0 ... R Rowe —
504 204-242 GOING GETS TOUGH 8 (A Leather) G Balding 6-11-0 ... J Frost —
505 010/3P0 MAN IN THE MOON 14 (B,F) (D Butt) Miss L Bower 5-11-0 ... D O'Sullivan —
506 000- RATHBAWN DAN 315 (M McCormack) M McCormack 6-11-0 ... C Cox —
507 2/01213- FIT FOR FIRING 238 (S) (F Chapman) D Elsworth 5-10-9 ... B Powell —

● Celtic Shot will only run if there is overnight rain

BETTING: 2-7 Celtic Shot, 11-2 Fit for Firing, 8-1 Going Gets Tough, 12-1 Amrullah, 14-1 Earl Soham, 20-1 Man In The Moon, 33-1 Rathbawn Dan.

1988: SIR BLAKE 7-11-0 B Powell (6-4 fav) D Elsworth 11 ran

3.20 SPEEN NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £3,174: 2m 100yd) (18 runners)

601 500-1 GENERAL GLORY 24 (CD,G) (Mrs H Price) J Gifford 5-11-7 ... R Rowe 85
602 BORDEAUX BEAU (D Naylor-Leyland) O Sherwood 5-11-0 ... J Osborne —
603 CLEAN THROUGH (P McCalmont) N Henderson 4-11-0 ... J White —
604 DICKENS AND BROWNE (Orlaford Ltd) J Czerpak 4-11-0 ... Dale McKeown —
605 DORVER 917F (Under Orders Racing Plc) S Dow 5-11-0 ... D Murphy —
606 00-P ELYSIAN WARRIOR 19 (B) (A Williams) E Wheeler 4-11-0 ... M Bowlby —
607 P- FAMOUS FLASK 324 (J Blackwell) A Moore 7-11-0 ... G Moore —
608 000441- FOREST RAIN 167 (F) (R Morris-Adams) N Gaselee 6-11-0 ... B Powell 83
609 0/034-43 HOLTERMANN 14 (D) (R Bell) M Haynes 5-11-0 ... R Arnott ● 89
610 FP-F ROYAL HALO 8 (Mrs D Campbell) J Redmond 8-11-0 ... K Mooney —
611 P SOROPTIMISTER 17 (Mrs R Till) P Hayward 4-11-0 ... B Wright —
612 SOUTHERN SUPREME (Southern Caravan Group) J Gifford 6-11-0 ... T Grantham —
613 4- SUNNINGHILL CELTIC 291 (J Berry) D Elsworth 5-11-0 ... R Arnott —
614 0P/33 TELEMAHOS 10 (P Parkinson) J Roberts 7-11-0 ... Mr G Upton (3) 88
615 02- VILLA RECOS 238 (R Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-0 ... M Pitman —
616 WESTERN DIVIDE 19F (K Parrott) J Parrett 4-11-0 ... M Kinane —
617 WILLIAMSFIELD (E Weatherall) M Bradstock 4-11-0 ... —
618 GILD THE LILY 22F (D Drury) M Madgwick 4-10-9 ... D Madgwick (7) —

BETTING: 9-4 General Glory, 3-1 Bordeaux Beau, 9-2 Sunninghill Celtic, 6-1 Villa Recos, 7-1 Clean Through, 10-1 Forest Rain, 14-1 others.

1988: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
C Brooks	7	19	36.8	P Scudamore	35	188	18.6
R Smyth	3	11	27.3	Dale McKeown	4	24	16.7
D Murray Smith	6	32	18.8	R Dunwoody	26	162	16.0
R Akehurst	7	42	16.7	D Murphy	3	20	15.0
O Sherwood	14	84	16.7	R Rowe	17	115	14.8
D Nicholson	20	126	15.9	H Davies	19	130	14.6

(Not including yesterday's results)

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

NEWCASTLE

Selections
By Mandarin

12.30 Old Applejack. 1.00 Man Of The West. 1.30 Blazing Walker. 2.00 Kribensis. 2.30 PERSILLANT (nap). 3.00 Groom Star. 3.30 Across The Lake.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.00 Kribensis.

Going: good to firm

12.30 FUSILIERS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,356: 3m) (3 runners)

1 224-3P3 THE LANGHOLM DYER 14 (D,F,G,S) (Edinburgh Mill) G Richards 10-11-10 ... M Moloney (5) ● 99
2 31P0P-3 OLD APPLEJACK 21 (C,D,F,S) (G Tobitt) J Johnson 9-11-5 ... T Reed 98
3 P0214-3 COOL RECEPTION 8 (C,G,S) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 8-10-3 ... C Grant 89

BETTING: 11-10 The Langholm Dyer, 6-4 Cool Reception, 7-2 Old Applejack.

1988: GREEN GORSE 8-9-12 P Harris (4-5 fav) N Crump 8 ran

1.0 PHILIP CORNES NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £4,659: 2m 4f) (12 runners) C 4

1 315 HALCANOR 8 (BF,G) (Matchsemi Ltd) P Monteith 5-11-8 ... D Nolan 94
2 210-1 MAN OF THE WEST 15 (D,G,S) (A F Budge (Equine) Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-8 ... M Dwyer 84
3 23-5111 MIDLAND GLENN 4 (D,F,G) (Mrs A Eyre) J Eyre 5-11-8 ... Mr P McMahon ● 99
4 220-441 ALISTAIRS GIRL 8 (S) (Miss E Reed) W Reed 6-11-3 ... T Reed 92
5 0 EASTERN MINSTREL 14 (P Piller) W A Stephenson 5-11-0 ... C Grant —
6 0P05/ ITMA 24F (R Gibbons) R Allan 6-11-0 ... K Jones —
7 5000-65 YAMANOUCHI 15 (J Duffy) J Johnson 5-11-0 ... N Doughty —
8 00 EASTERN WAY 8 (R Morrison) J S Wilson 4-10-13 ... P Tuck —
9 000- ROYAL TRIBUTE 203 (B Rutter) N Chamberlain 4-10-13 ... G Harker —
10 05-5 SCOTS GAP 22 (M Julian) A Stringer 4-10-13 ... J J Quinn —
11 23 TERRASSEUR 8 (Lt Col R Warden) M H Easterby 4-10-13 ... L Wyer 90
12 006-0 GONE ASTRAY 17 (Mrs F Walton) F Walton 4-10-8 ... B Storey —

BETTING: 6-4 Man Of The West, 3-1 Midland Glenn, 5-1 Halcanor, 13-2 Terrasseur, 9-1 Alistairs Girl, 14-1 others.

1988: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS MAN OF THE WEST made all for odds-on 7l defeat of Rubydora at Market Rasen (2m 4f, good). MIDLAND GLENN 1½l Uttoxeter winner from Leander Lad (2m, good). ALISTAIR'S GIRL unchallenged 15l winner over Mr Boston at Ayr (2m, good to soft). TERRASSEUR had HALCANOR (2lb worse off) 2½l away 5th when 4l 3rd to Ballydaly Express at Ayr (2m 6f, soft). EASTERN WAY (same terms) was 8th.
Selection: MAN OF THE WEST

1.30 STEEL PLATE AND SECTIONS YOUNG CHASERS NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £2,310: 2m 4f) (5 runners) C 4

1 10-2111 BLAZING WALKER 14 (CD,F,G,S) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 5-11-12 ... C Grant 97
2 23-11F2 THIRD IN LINE 14 (D,F) (R Haggas) J FitzGerald 6-11-12 ... M Dwyer ● 99
3 0113/2F FLYING DANCER 14 (F,G,S) (D Bramall) B McLean 7-11-4 ... B Storey 92
4 3010-F3 MISTER POINT 14 (S) (M Battle) M H Easterby 7-11-4 ... L Wyer 98
5 3S-634P POLAR DELTA 15 (D McCaskill) D McCaskill 7-11-4 ... S Turner (3) 77

BETTING: 6-4 Blazing Walker, 7-4 Third In Line, 9-2 Mister Point, 13-2 Flying Dancer, 16-1 Polar Delta.

1988: GALADINE 6-11-4 L Wyer (11-2) M H Easterby 6 ran

FORM FOCUS BLAZING WALKER did not jump well but got up close home to beat THIRD IN LINE (4lb better off) ½l here (2m 4f, good to firm). MISTER POINT (5lb better off) was strong-finishing 2½l 3rd while FLYING DANCER (5lb better off) fell at the first. BLAZING WALKER earlier beat FLYING DANCER (same terms) 4l at Wetherby with MISTER POINT (same terms) a faller at the 11th (2m 4f 100yd, good).
Selection: THIRD IN LINE

2.0 FOOD BROKERS AND PRIMULA FIGHTING FIFTH HURDLE (Feature race: £13,939: 2m) (5 runners) C 4

1 11/1110- KRIBENSIS 189F (D,F,G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 5-11-9 ... M Dwyer ● 99
2 41F0-12 JINXY JACK 15 (BF,D,G,S) (Mrs B McKinney) G Richards 5-11-0 ... N Doughty 86
3 34-1330 MILL DE LEASE 14 (D,F) (S Leadbetter) J Dooler 4-11-0 ... W Worthington 51
4 322110/ OSRIC 14F (D,G,S) (R Scott) M Ryan 6-11-0 ... G McCourt —
5 3011/04- PAST GLORIES 275 (D,S) (N Hetherton) J Hetherton 6-11-0 ... J J Quinn —

BETTING: 4-6 Kribensis, 3-1 Jinxy Jack, 6-1 Osric, 12-1 Mill de Lease, 14-1 Past Glories.

1988: FLOYD 8-11-6 S Sherwood (9-4) D R C Elsworth 6 ran

FORM FOCUS KRIBENSIS, 7th to Beech Road in the Champion hurdle, should win this judged on previous 2l Kempton defeat of Floyd (2m, good to firm). JINXY JACK slightly disappointing 2l 2nd to Persian Style at Cheltenham (2m, good). OSRIC has raced just once over hurdles since beating Aldino 8l at at Kempton in 1987 in same event won by Kribensis last year (2m, good). PAST GLORIES last showed form when beating Cashew King 2½l at Haydock in May 1988 (2m, good to soft).
Selection: KRIBENSIS

2.30 JOHN SMITHS BITTER HANDICAP HURDLE (£6,004: 2m) (10 runners) C 4

1 35P-1P FIEFDOM 21 (CD,F,G,S) (C Clark) W Storey 9-11-12 ... A Carroll 92
2 1114- PERSILLANT 85F (D,F,G,S) (R Gomersall) N Tinkler 5-11-12 ... G McCourt 94
3 12-2 ON TAP 21 (D,F) (Lt Col R Warden) M H Easterby 5-11-8 ... L Wyer 94
4 1133-14 FLYAWAY 10 (D,F,G) (D Emery) J Harris 4-11-8 ... J A Harris 98
5 02123-3 DUAL VENTURE 14 (D,F) (A Soulsby) J FitzGerald 7-11-2 ... M Dwyer 96
6 21-5432 PALM HOUSE 12 (BF,D,F,G,S) (R Tyrer) G Richards 4-11-0 ... N Doughty 96
7 2R12-23 BEAU GUEST 15 (D,F,G) (W Sellers) J Parkes 7-10-8 ... J O'Gorman (3) 98
8 02-1201 ALBERT THE GREAT 7 (D,F,G) (I Rodden) P Liddle 6-10-4 ... C Grant ● 99
9 240-251 KHARIF 14 (CD,F) (R Allan) R Allan 5-10-1 ... R Fahey 95
10 353233- TREBONKERS 180 (D,S) (Mrs C M Richard) J S Wilson 5-10-0 ... Miss T Waggott (7) 83

Long handicap: Trebonkers 9-8.

BETTING: 5-2 On Tap, 7-2 Dual Venture, 5-1 Persillant, 6-1 Palm House, 8-1 Fiefdom, 12-1 others.

1988: ANTINOUS 4-11-7 L Wyer (3-1 fav) M H Easterby 18 ran

FORM FOCUS FIEFDOM beat ALBERT THE GREAT (15lb better off) 15l here on seasonal debut (2m, firm). PERSILLANT has good claims on 2½l Cheltenham defeat of Tribute To Youth (2m, good to firm).
ON TAP 2l 2nd to Jinxy Jack at Wetherby (2m, good) where FIEFDOM (8lb better off) was pulled up before the last hurdle. DUAL VENTURE 3½l 3rd to Mizaj here (2m, good to firm). BEAU GUEST should be thereabouts judged on neck 2nd to Colonel Popski at Cartmel in August (2m 1f, firm). KHARIF won novice hurdle here by 2½l from Exciting Prospect (2m, good to firm).
Selection: PERSILLANT

3.0 COMEDY OF ERRORS NOVICES HURDLE (3YO: £2,057: 2m) (8 runners)

1 60 BISHOPSFORD 7 (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 10-10 ... Miss T Waggott (7) —
2 6 CORNET 7 (Duke of Sutherland) Denys Smith 10-10 ... M Dwyer —
3 0 DAMANOUR 7 (W Peacock) G Richards 10-10 ... N Doughty —
4 3 GROOM STAR 7 (Robinson Publications Ltd) N Tinkler 10-10 ... G McCourt —
5 ISLAND JETSETTER 63F (P Green) M H Easterby 10-10 ... L Wyer —
6 KEEP BIDDING 64F (C Bainbridge) M W Easterby 10-10 ... Ger Lyons (3) —
7 LADY KHADIJA 15F (A Barrett) G Kelly 10-5 ... —
8 LOADPLAN LASS 18F (Loadplan Ltd) C Booth 10-5 ... P Tuck —

BETTING: Evens Groom Star, 4-1 Island Jetsetter, 6-1 Cornet, Damanour, 14-1 others.

1988: BANK VIEW 3-10-10 G McCourt (9-2) N Tinkler 13 ran

3.30 PENINSULA NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,604: 3m) (8 runners)

1 142125 ROYAL MILE 21 (BF,F) (W Stephenson) W A Stephenson 4-12-0 ... A Heywood (7) 84
2 303604 ALL OVER THE WORLD 14 (F) (Mrs R Coleman) Denys Smith 6-10-13 ... C Grant 89
3 0084-3F ACROSS THE LAKE 11 (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 5-10-12 ... J O'Gorman (3) 88
4 02P-006 RAVENSDALE ROAD 23 (B) (T Switzer) A James 6-10-6 ... E Tierney (7) 97
5 54/P-226 ROSE TABLEAU 22 (Mrs H Wells) Mrs H Wells 6-10-6 ... F Murtagh (7) 85
6 606-R42 BORDER SPARK 4 (Mrs V Gilmour) G Richards 6-10-3 ... M Moloney (5) ● 99
7 PR/0 CASTLE PAN 17 (Mrs P Ruff) W Reed 8-10-0 ... T Reed —
8 P-20436 LOCHAR BRIG 22 (D McCaskill) D McCaskill 10-10-0 ... Miss J Morton 90

Long handicap: Castle Pan 9-1, Lochar Brig 9-0.

BETTING: 9-4 Border Spark, 3-1 Royal Mile, 9-2 Across The Lake, 6-1 All Over The World, 8-1 Ravensdale Road, 10-1 Rose Tableau, 33-1 others.

1989: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Jimmy Fitzgerald	24	70	34.3	A Carroll	3	11	27.3
N Tinkler	7	24	29.2	G McCourt	7	29	24.1
M H Easterby	20	77	26.0	M Dwyer	18	87	20.7
W Storey	7	37	18.9	L Wyer	10	51	19.6
W A Stephenson	50	278	18.0	R Fahey	4	21	19.0
B McLean	4	24	16.7	C Grant	24	147	16.3

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TOWCESTER

Selections
By Mandarin

1.0 Na La Giri. 1.30 Express Air. 2.0 Mamamere. 2.30 Solar Cloud. 3.15 Major Effort.

Going: firm

1.0 SHOWSLEY SELLING HURDLE (£1,618: 2m) (7 runners)

1 0-21 REEF PATRICK 5 (D,F) M Tompkins 4-12-0 ... R Dennis
2 -504 MANJANIQ 9 (B) J Jenkins 5-11-9 ... S Smith Eccles
3 050 JIM'S NEPHEW 3 A Moore 3-10-7 ... Candy Morris
4 2 NA LA GIRI 9 R Simpson 3-10-7 ... W Morris
5 60 TARLOGIE 28F S Muldoon 3-10-7 ... M Hill
6 U3 DEEMSTER WILLOW 9 (B) G Balding 3-10-2 ... A Charlton (3)
7 F6 DONNA DEL LAGO 9 T Casey 3-10-2 ... M Lynch

5-2 Na La Giri, 3-1 Deemster Willow, 7-2 Reef Patrick, 6-1 Donna Del Lago, 8-1 Manjaniq, 12-1 Jim's Nephew, Tarlogie.

1.30 EROSTIN GROUP NOVICES CHASE (£2,778: 2m 5f 110yd) (7)

1 BATCHWORTH HILL C Holmes 7-11-0 ... L Harvey
2 24/ ELDOT BRIGADE 1282 Mrs J French 11-11-0 ... Miss S French
3 0-01 EXPRESS AIR 8 (D,G,S) G Balding 6-11-0 ... R Guest
4 1003 LORD ADMIRAL 7 (F) Mrs S Armytage 7-11-0 ... Gee Armytage
5 U605 IAMA PRINCESS 9 T Casey 6-10-9 ... M Lynch
6 PP/F MR JERSEY 10 J Jenkins 7-10-9 ... S Smith Eccles
7 00-F ANSWERS PLEASE 12 R Smyly 5-10-9 ... C Llewellyn

6-4 Express Air, 5-2 Lord Admiral, 5-1 Batchworth Hill, 8-1 Iama Princess, 12-1 Eldot Brigade, 16-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: O Sherwood, 13 winners from 46 runners, 28.3%; P Cundell, 4 from 23, 17.4%; T Casey, 14 from 92, 15.2%; G Balding, 10 from 72, 13.9%; (Only qualifiers).

JOCKEYS: Mrs J Saunders, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; A Charlton, 3 from 14, 21.4%; S Smith Eccles, 6 from 58, 10.3%; C Llewellyn, 6 from 58, 10.3%. (Only qualifiers).

2.0 WILCON HOMES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,320: 2m) (8)

1 1213 FRIENDLY FELLOW 10 (B,D,F,G) F Jordan 5-11-13 ... J Lodder (7)
2 5-32 OPERATIC SCORE 16 (D,G) J Jenkins 5-11-4 ... S Smith Eccles
3 05-P GOODWYNS LAD 9 (D,S) A Barrow 5-10-4 ... S Earle
4 6-32 MAMAMERE 16 (F,G) S Cole 5-10-2 ... R Bellamy (7)
5 5-43 RUN OF WELD 25 (D,G) W Morris 6-10-1 ... W Morris
6 05F- FORT WAPPING 180 (S) A Moore 5-10-0 ... Candy Morris
7 -06P NORTHERN HALO 25 (V,CD,F) A Chamberlain 8-10-0 ... L Harvey
8 U062 SLANEY PRINCE 9 (D,G,S) P Connors 9-10-0 ... G Martin

3-1 Friendly Fellow, 4-1 Operatic Score, 9-2 Mamamere, 5-1 Goodwyns Lad, 6-1 Run Of Weld, 12-1 others.

2.30 STOWE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,128: 2m 5f 110yd) (3)

1 -433 SOLAR CLOUD 9 (C,F,G,S) M Charles 7-11-10 ... J Railton (3)
2 243P CASH CRISIS 16 (F) A Barrow 9-11-8 ... S Earle
3 -031 CELTIC CRACKLE 1 (C,F) P Cundell 9-10-13 (7ex) ... R Strange

5-4 Cash Crisis, 6-4 Solar Cloud, 7-2 Celtic Crackle.

3.0 WELLINGBOROUGH NOVICES HURDLE (£1,224: 2m 5f 26yd) (10)

1 /F-4 AQUA VERDE 4 A Reid 10-10-10 ... J Ryan (5)
2 5254 CELERY RISE 9 D Barons 5-10-10 ... E Byrne
3 50/0 IXOR 14 R Simpson 5-10-10 ... D Gallagher (3)
4 23 MAJOR EFFORT 8 G Balding 4-10-10 ... R Guest
5 00/ MAKE MY NIGHT 908 J Dawes 5-10-10 ... M Furlong
6 5 NERAK SENGA 10 Mrs J Bloom 7-10-10 ... Mrs J Saunders
7 -053 ORIENTAL DREAM 16 W Morris 5-10-10 ... W Morris
8 PICASSO MOODS O Sherwood 5-10-10 ... A S Smith (7)
9 -024 CHIAFFA 29 Miss C Horler 7-10-5 ... S Earle
10 P4-0 GOOD SAILING 7 Mrs D Haine 5-10-5 ... S Smith Eccles

5-2 Major Effort, 5-1 Nerak Senga, 6-1 Celery Rise, Oriental Dream, 10-1 Chiaffa, Good Sailing, 12-1 others.

3.15 OXMOOR KENTUCKY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,270: 3m 190yd)

1 152- RANDOMLY 266 (D,G,S) C Bell 10-11-11 ... Rachel Halden (7)

WALKS OVER

MARKET RASEN

Selections
By Mandarin

12.45 Comtec Prince. 1.15 Watertight. 1.45 Green Willow. 2.15 Stupid Cupid. 2.45 Baluchi. 3.15 Pantomime Prince. 3.45 Alchemic.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating
2.15 STUPID CUPID.

Going: good

12.45 LINCOLN SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,688: 2m) (18 runners)

1 /50- DICK KNIGHT 306 (S) P Allingham 8-12-0 ... Mr S Andrews
2 P-63 MONRITA 21 (S) (D) C Bell 7-11-10 ... P Niven
3 0-3P MARTINELLI 37 (F,G) (D) C Beever 10-11-1 ... B McGill (7)
4 2224 NO CREDIBILITY 8 B Richmond 7-11-1 ... D Byrne (3)
5 610/ GOLDEN AZELIA 637 (S) (D) Miss S Wilton 6-11-1 ... R Beggan
6 0-03 REGAL BRASS 7 P Blockley 5-11-0 ... P Midgeley (7)
7 PPF- MISTY MIRAGE 180 (S) (D) S Torr 9-10-13 ... D Skyrme
8 -036 COMTEC PRINCE 18 (G,S) (D) B Forsey 7-10-13 ... D Tegg
9 0F0- SHIRYON 190 P Bevan 4-10-10 ... T Wall
10 0/P- ZIO PEPPINO 17F J Smith 8-10-10 ... S J O'Neill
11 0-04 CAMDORE BOY 37 (F) (D) J Bradley 9-10-8 ... G Davies
12 0-00 DREADNOUGHT 12 (S) (D) J Carden 9-10-7 ... Mr J Carden
13 0P-P GOLDEN SAMPHIRE 63 (S) (V,C) M Chapman 4-10-4 ... T P White (7)
14 /03- MILL TERN 7F (B) A Potts 7-10-3 ... T Potts (7)
15 /4UP SUEDE LADY 28 Mrs G Bartle 6-10-1 ... R Supple (3)
16 /6-4 PHILOTAS 21 Miss G Rees 5-10-0 ... T Pinfield (5)
17 5045 WELSH FLUTE 25 R Thompson 3-10-0 ... P Verling (3)
18 040P LYNKINGEM 16 M Chapman 3-10-0 ... J Callaghan (7)

3-1 Comtec Prince, 4-1 Misty Mirage, 5-1 No Credibility, Monrita, 8-1 Shiryon, Regal Brass, 12-1 others.

1.15 CONSORT TRAVEL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,595: 3m) (7)

1 1113 GEOSTAR 21 (F,G) (CD) J Leigh 5-12-7 ... Gary Lyons (7)
2 4P-4 WATERTIGHT 7 G Moore 4-10-6 ... M Hammond
3 50-0 CHANGE THE NAME 21 P Blockley 6-10-4 ... C Kellett
4 06-4 MERYETT 17 J White 5-10-3 ... K Burke
5 5-65 SPRING COTTAGE 7 W Hardy 9-10-0 ... R Beggan
6 340- SWEET SIRENIA 211 Mrs A Ratcliff 7-10-0 ... T Pinfield (5)
7 50P/ SIR GYPSY 410F J Mackie 5-10-0 ... S J O'Neill

7-4 Meryett, 2-1 Watertight, 9-2 Geostar, 14-1 Spring Cottage, 16-1 Sweet Sirenia, 20-1 others.

1.45 NEWARK STORAGE NOVICES CHASE (£4,997: 2m) (7)

1 25-1 GREEN WILLOW 17 (F,G,S) (D) J Gifford 7-11-12 ... Peter Hobbs
2 4-P1 ANTINOUS 7 (G,S) (D) M H Easterby 5-11-4 ... R Marley
3 3-61 VICKSTOWN 12 (F) (D) B Morgan 7-11-4 ... T Wall
4 50-U FORT WORTH 7 G Oldroyd 5-11-0 ... R Garritty (5)
5 54/4 RAMPANT 17 (F,S) R Barr 10-11-0 ... Mr H Brown
6 2526 UNPAID MEMBER 7 (F) (D) P Blockley 5-11-0 ... S J O'Neill
7 -544 WISCONSIN 78 (F) (C) M Chapman 5-10-9 ... R Supple

4-6 Green Willow, 7-2 Antinous, 6-1 Vickstown, 12-1 Rampant, 14-1 Unpaid Member, 20-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: C Thornton, 7 winners from 18 runners, 38.9%; B Morgan, 3 from 10, 30.0%; Miss S Hall, 4 from 16, 25.0%; M H Easterby, 20 from 84, 23.8%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 32 from 153, 20.9%; C Bell, 5 from 28, 17.9%.

JOCKEYS: Mr S Swiers, 3 winners from 10 rides, 30.0%; M Hammond, 13 from 62, 21.0%; Gary Lyons, 3 from 18, 16.7%; R Beggan, 7 from 49, 14.3%; P Niven, 11 from 94, 11.7%; C Hawkins, 6 from 52, 11.5%; D Byrne, 3 from 27, 11.1%.

2.15 RANVET MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,057: 2m) (17)

1 54-1 JOYFULNESS 112 (F) (D) P Bevan 4-11-7 ... T Wall
2 IN GLORY 45F Mrs P Barker 5-11-0 ... C Hawkins
3 30-U JUSSOLI 28 (V,BF) Miss S Hall 5-11-0 ... M Hammond
4 465- LECALE LADY 137 J Parkes 5-11-0 ... N Smith (7)
5 P/0- LISGAYLE 341 R Barr 6-11-0 ... P Midgeley (7)
6 PUP/ LUCKY LENA 556 S Torr 9-11-0 ... R Supple (3)
7 632- RASPBERRY COPSE 180 Miss G Rees 4-11-0 ... T Pinfield (5)
8 P06- SMOKEY TRACK 409 K Morgan 4-11-0 ... —
9 4F0- ANGEL'S DREAM 212 K Bailey 5-10-10 ... R Beggan
10 PP0- BRULEE 208 Mrs E Heath 5-10-10 ... P Harding-Jones (5)
11 P/0- BUSH MAID 280 P Liddle 5-10-10 ... D Byrne (3)
12 6 CHILTON LADY 24 N Miller 4-10-10 ... J Callaghan (7)
13 HERON VALLEY W Parrin 5-10-10 ... —
14 0-4F MIXED BLESSING 28 L Wordingham 5-10-10 ... —
15 52P0 NOBLE SCAMP 22 J Parkes 4-10-10 ... R Crank
16 5-42 RUBYDORA 15 (S) (D) M H Easterby 5-10-10 ... R Marley
17 00-2 STUPID CUPID 16 J Gifford 5-10-10 ... Peter Hobbs

11-8 Stupid Cupid, 5-2 Rubydora, 6-1 Joyfulness, 8-1 Raspberry Copse, 12-1 In Glory, Noble Scamp, 16-1 others.

2.45 BROCKLESBY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,735: 3m) (3)

1 2-35 BALUCHI 14 (F,G,S) (C) B Preece 8-12-0 ... Gary Lyons (7)
2 63-2 CLONDROHID 7 (F,S) P Blockley 8-10-4 ... S J O'Neill
3 035/ LEAMLARA LAD 568 (G,S) Mrs P Sly 9-10-0 ... R Garritty (5)

1-4 Baluchi, 4-1 Clondrohid, 14-1 Leamlara Lad.

3.15 CHASE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,775: 2m) (5)

1 3-3F PANTOMIME PRINCE 7 (F,G) (CD,BF) C Thornton 5-11-10 ... M Hammond
2 640- CORKED 190 (F,G,S) (D) Mrs E Heath 10-11-8 ... P Harding-Jones (5)
3 1F-4 ATKINSONS 15 (F,G,S) (D) Mrs G Reveley 8-11-3 ... P Niven
4 -223 RINGMORE 15 (F,G) (CD,BF) J Parkes 7-10-3 ... N Smith (7)
5 32-1 LIGHT TRAVELLER 35 (F) (D) R Barr 9-10-0 ... D Byrne (3)

4-5 Pantomime Prince, 7-4 Ringmore, 4-1 Light Traveller, 12-1 others.

3.45 MARKET RASEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,702: 1m 4f) (11)

1 5- ALCHEMIC 311 M Robinson 5-11-0 ... W McFarland (3)
2 HAPPYOATS Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-11-0 ... J Barton (7)
3 00 REMEMBER JOSH 28 R Tate 5-11-0 ... Miss F Tate (7)
4 SNEVES J Mackie 4-11-0 ... J Manson (7)
5 SUNSET AGAIN M Robinson 4-11-0 ... Mr K Comerford (7)
6 4 TAGLIO DE CHAMPFEU 28 R Curtis 4-11-0 ... S Mason (7)
7 TEDDY BRUERE Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-11-0 ... D Byrne (3)
8 00 TOUCH GO GO 12 J Leigh 4-11-0 ... Gary Lyons (7)
9 4-0 LEY LINE 28 J Robinson 5-10-9 ... Mr S Swiers
10 NO RESPONSE G Kelly 4-10-9 ... T P White (7)
11 REFRAIN NO MORE C Smith 4-10-9 ... D Telfer (7)

9-4 Teddy Bruere, 7-2 Alchemic, 9-2 Taglio De Champfeu, 5-1 Happyoats, 6-1 Sunset Again, 10-1 Sneves, 14-1 others.

Champion honoured

Elaine Bronson, assistant at David Wilson's Epsom stables, was honoured as champion woman rider yesterday. She was presented with her weight in Lanson champagne at a lunch in London, plus a Trusthouse Forte gold card to the value of £1,000. Clare Balding, the runner-up, received a gold card to the value of £750. The title was decided in the final race at Folkestone, when Miss Bronson won on Kovalevskia from Miss Balding on Straight Gold.

Smith Eccles in form

Steve Smith Eccles can do little wrong at present and continued to make up for the near six weeks he lost through an ankle injury when partnering Letterewe to victory in the first division of the Beginners Novice Hurdle at Leicester yesterday. It was his fifth win this week.

Smith Eccles stole a five-lengths lead on the 10-1 hurdling debutant after the fourth last and was able to take several glances over his shoulder as he came home 1½ lengths in front of the hard ridden 11-4 on favourite Return To Romance.

Trainer Gavin Pritchard-Gordon said: "Letterewe stays really well and Steve used her stamina to full advantage. He thinks she'll get further."

Bruce Dowling, fined £500 after taking the wrong course on I Like It A Lot at Ludlow on Thursday, had a welcome winner when London Leader comfortably beat sole opponent African Safari in the Douglas Concrete Novice Chase Qualifier.

"I'll probably forget to weigh in now," Dowling joked after dismounting from the winner.

The jockey had few problems in yesterday's race, with London Leader jumping well — albeit to his left — and drawing clear from the second last to score by 12 lengths. Richard Lee, who trains I Like It A Lot and London Leader, said: "I'm pleased for Bruce. This will have done him the world of good."

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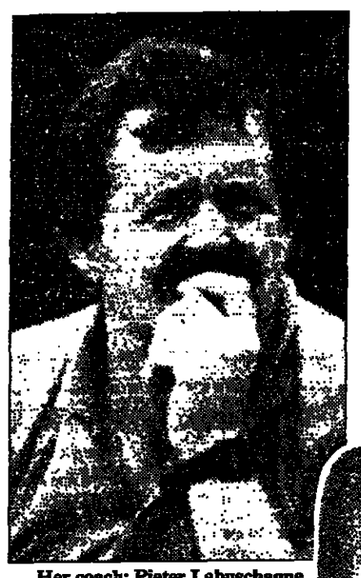
SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK

The price of my principles

Zola Budd's arrival in 1984 provoked one of the biggest controversies in British athletics. In her autobiography, she reveals her struggle of conscience



Her coach: Pieter Labuschagne

Her father: Frank Budd

Zola and Mike Pieterse

When I heard on April 6, 1984, that I had been granted British citizenship, it should have been the greatest moment of my life. But there was no rush of adrenalin, no relief that I finally had the chance to run internationally after competing in the vacuum of South African athletics against the same faces every week. Instead, I saw the passport that thrust me into the world's spotlight as a symbol of my abuse.

All I had ever wanted to do was run. Although I was just 17, running had become a way of life for me. Running was something special, something to cherish. I ran because I loved it and it made me feel good, but from the moment I became a British citizen I felt that I had become a commodity; that my life would never again be the same.

Shy, impressionable and easily influenced, I was bewildered by the controversy generated by what opponents of South Africa's racial policy saw as a passport of convenience. I was firmly under the control of my father, Frank, and my coach, Pieter Labuschagne.

They put me on top of the world but never stopped to consider my feelings . . . it seemed that they realized they could advance their own careers as well as mine. Daddy recognized my commercial value while Pieter was savouring the prestige he would get as coach to a world-class athlete outside the confines of a country ostracized because of its apartheid policy.

Together with the *Daily Mail*, which arranged a cloak-and-dagger operation to get me to England, they turned me into some kind of circus animal. At 17 and coming from an Afrikaans background, I could not even express myself fluently in English, let alone handle a press conference.

I shall never forget the irony of the *Mail* statements that they had brought me over "so that she can run for Britain — the country she wants to represent in world athletics . . . we felt it would be a tragedy if she had to run for any other country when her heart lies here."

That was news to me: at the time, I was desperately unhappy and even telephoned my coach to tell him that I did not wish to go to the Olympics.

But Daddy had other ideas. Even worse, he took the lion's share of the *Daily Mail* money. Of the original £100,000, £20,000 went into my British trust fund, Pieter got £20,000 and my two sisters and brother received £5,000 apiece. That left £45,000 with daddy and I have never seen a penny of it.

My father's attitude (he saw only money when he looked at me) was indicative of what was to come: everybody jumped on the Budd bandwagon. I was a saleable commodity and, I believe, I was harshly exploited; I was vulnerable, frightened and confused, the focus of media men around the world and a target for the anti-apartheid lobby.

I would, I suppose, have saved myself a great deal of trouble and torment had I taken the easy way out and denounced apartheid from the moment I qualified to run for Britain. But I have never been one to look for a simple solution to a complex problem and because I objected to being a pawn in a political chess game, to being moved around the board at the whim of every anti-apartheid lobbyist who could get a few seconds on television or a couple of paragraphs in a newspaper, I kept my mouth shut and my feelings to myself.

I accept that politics is an integral part of daily life, but as a sportswoman I do not believe I am in a position to pass judgement on any particular political system. That was not good enough for the opponents of South Africa's racial segregation policy, and even though I was technically British, I was also white and South African-born — which made me such an easy target for those activists around the world.

Sam Ramsamy and his South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC) had a field day when I was in England. "Zola bashing" became a popular sport for the Third World members of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF).

I still find it incredible that my opponents thought that by destroying my athletics career they would be striking a major blow against South Africa. The ultimate irony of it all was that I abhor apartheid as they do. But because people such as Ramsamy and Archbishop Desmond Tutu attacked me as an individual, I refused to accede to their demands.

There were other reasons too for the silence I broke only in January this year, when it became apparent that my reluctance to speak out against apartheid was being misconstrued as support for a political system which deprived the majority of South Africans of their basic human rights.

Although I ended up doing political science as part of my BA degree, it had never been my intention to get seriously involved in politics. I chose political science at the suggestion of my coach, Pieter, but before that politics had always been something in the distance that other people were involved in.

My political baptism came when I arrived in England and was perceived as a symbol of apartheid. Call me naive, but I did not believe that politics should play a role in the life of an athlete. I still hold that view and it distresses me that politics has become such an overpowering force in the sporting arena. My attitude is that as a sportswoman, I should have the right to pursue my chosen discipline in peace.

Wendy Sly is not asked if she voted Labour or Conservative; Sebastian Coe does not get asked to denounce Soviet expansionism; and Carl Lewis is not required to express his view on the Contra arms scandal. But I was not afforded that courtesy, and it became a matter of principle for me not to give those who were intent on discrediting me the satisfaction of hearing me say what they most wanted to hear.

But that was not the only reason why I remained silent. Only fools speak publicly on subjects they know very little about and in my late teens I was certainly no expert on political systems. My life revolved around my running and although I had formed an opinion about what the black, coloured and Asian people in South Africa were being subjected to, I did not have a firm grasp of the social issues of the day or what was happening in international relations. I had not studied apartheid in any great detail and was not therefore in a position to comment when everybody was baying for a statement.

As I matured, I became more cynical about politics and politicians. I looked long and hard, but saw nothing noble in politics and I felt particularly aggrieved by attacks on me by people who imputed that I was a racist or that I supported a racist political system because I did not make a stand against apartheid. I saw no reason why for the sake of expediency I should sacrifice my belief in honesty and fair play.

There was certainly nothing fair about the way anti-apartheid activists picked on me — even Archbishop Tutu indicated that I was a legitimate target in the bid to isolate South Africa — and apart from wanting to stay clear of the political circus in the first place, I felt sure I would not be left alone once I had stated my opposition to apartheid. My fear was that once I denounced apartheid I would be asked to condemn the South African government, the state president, or the tricameral parliament, in a never-ending spiral.

Even people connected closely with me, staunch South Africans, wanted me to come out against apartheid and I was in a no-win situation. I did not want to antagonize anyone and even though I can never accept a political system which entrenches the superiority of one race or culture over another, my thoughts on the subject were my affair.

'I find it incredible that my opponents thought that by destroying my career they would strike a major blow against South Africa'

In 1986, I came under a lot of pressure from my coach, Pieter, to put my pride in my pocket and speak out against apartheid. The vice-president of the South African Amateur Athletic Association, Jannie Momberg, a wealthy Cape wine dealer and politician who had helped me when I moved to Britain, also wanted me to clear the air. And the former Springbok cricket player, Eddie Barlow, then based in London as South Africa's sporting "ambassador", even prepared a statement for me. Had I endorsed the document, dated July 1986, this is what I would have said:

"I should make it quite clear that I am now a British citizen, proud to be so and indebted to the British people for the warmth and friendship they have shown towards me.

"I am aware that my South African background has given rise to much comment. As a former South African athlete, I fully supported the policy of the South African sporting community, which unequivocably rejected apartheid and called for its abolition.

"Now that I have become a British citizen my views are unchanged, and I remain wholly opposed not only to apartheid but to any form of discrimination practised anywhere in the world on any grounds. I am sure that my concern with violations of human rights is the same as that felt by all my fellow sportsmen and women."

I am sure a statement such as that would have done much to defuse the explosive situation in which I found myself in England, yet I was not prepared to compromise my original belief in the fact that an individual's political views were personal. I agreed with every word, but I was a runner, not a politician, and if other sportsmen and women were not required to make similar statements, I did not see why I should be the exception. The more I was pressed into taking a stand, the more I rebelled; Pieter used to get angry every time the subject came up and I routinely refused to speak my mind. In the end my determination not to give in played right into my opponents' hands by giving them still more ammunition to fire back at me. But my conscience was clear, and that was the main thing.

Not surprisingly, there was hardly a murmur when, on January 3, 1989, I made what was, at the time, the most explicit political statement of my career, after being labelled a supporter of apartheid through the distortion of my words in a television interview and in a documentary made by Kenneth Griffith, the British film-maker.

In the interview I reiterated that I would never condemn apartheid and in the other I criticized Archbishop Tutu and Ramsamy for attacking me personally. That I had dared point a finger at Archbishop Tutu, one of the South African government's fiercest critics, rekindled the controversy surrounding my own political stance and I had to "go public" for the first time to rid myself of the pro-apartheid image I had gained through my criticism.

I argued that by questioning the tactics of Archbishop Tutu and Ramsamy I was not supporting the political system which deprived many South Africans of their basic human rights. My quarrel with them was not over apartheid but over the way they had attacked me, and I did not believe they had any right to use me as a target in their attempt to dismantle the system. I continued in a statement released through the South African Press Association:

"As an athlete who still hopes to pursue an international career I am not interested in joining the political circus and I have always resisted attempts to force me into taking a particular political stance. I object to being used as a political pawn and as a matter of principle do not think that my own political views, or those of any sportsman or woman, should be a matter for public concern.

"An athlete, however, does not have to be a politician to recognize that people everywhere have basic human rights and I, as a Christian, hold that view. I do not support any political system that entrenches the superiority of one race over another."

Several days later, in an interview with the *Johannesburg Sunday Star*, I went further, saying that: "Even the state president, Mr P W Botha, has rejected apartheid and I hold the same view."

Although I had finally shown my colours, there was no reaction from the anti-apartheid lobby and the reason was simple. It suited them when I kept quiet, but my personal politics were of no use to them if I agreed with their point of view.

Instead, the African countries in the IAAF changed tack and concentrated on my South African links in an attempt to prevent a Budd comeback. I was left wondering why I had bothered in the first place. It had to be said, though, because I could not bear the thought of being seen as endorsing apartheid.

You only have to study the bible to recognize the injustice of apartheid. The bible tells me that all men are born equal and that we will all be equal before God. I cannot reconcile segregation along racial lines with the teaching of the bible, and, as a Christian, I find apartheid intolerable. I do not support apartheid and I took exception to the people who, when I was silent on the issue, used me as a means of scoring political points.

Archbishop Tutu was among many who singled me out for attack, endorsing the call for action to be taken against me because of my South African links, yet he did not for one moment consider that I might share his view that apartheid should be dismantled. Instead, he called on athletics administrators to take whatever steps were necessary to ensure that my international career was brought to an end.

As the IAAF set out on its witch-hunt in an attempt to force the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) to ban me for 12 months, I was suspended from March 24, 1988 until the IAAF council meeting on April 15. The international body would then consider whether I had contravened Rule 53 (1), which declares ineligible for competition any person who has "taken part in any athletics meeting or event in which any of the competitors were to his (her) knowledge ineligible to compete under IAAF rules."

On April 15, the council deferred a decision to an inner caucus and the following day the IAAF recommended unanimously to the British board that I be banned for 12 months for "at least being in breach of the spirit of the rules of the IAAF."

"It is," the IAAF said, "the view that the BAAB ought to consider a suspension for the athlete from competition for 12 months."

Did I take part in a cross country race in Brakpan? Did I hand out the prizes after the New Year's Eve race in Randfontein? The answer is "no" on both counts, but for the IAAF, which can be swayed in council by the voting power of its African and Asian members, many of whom are rigidly opposed to anything South African, the incidents gave them the ammunition they needed to recommend a suspension.

When I became a British national and ran in Los Angeles (in the Olympics), there were howls of protest from many anti-apartheid quarters, and, taking the composition of the IAAF council into consideration, I had little chance of receiving a sympathetic hearing when the case concerning my alleged participation at Brakpan came before them.

The ball that was to bowl me out of international competition was started rolling by African member-countries of the IAAF who were threatening a boycott of the 1988 world cross country championships in Auckland. The IAAF asked the BAAB to withdraw me from the team for the championships and the board refused, saying: "In the light that no evidence has been forthcoming from the IAAF concerning Miss Budd's activities in South Africa in 1987, and her assurances concerning allegations made, the BAAB considers that the IAAF must, if it requires her to be deselected, instruct the BAAB to deselect her."

I withdrew from the cross country championships on March 16 rather than jeopardize the chances of my British team-mates, but the IAAF persisted in its attempt to prove that I had contravened the rules: the council's conclusion that I had broken the "spirit" of the rules was not surprising, considering the spread of votes.

It became apparent in 1984 that African members of the IAAF perceived me as a symbol of South Africa and of apartheid, and among the 23 council members in 1988 was Lamine Diack, of Senegal, the president of the African Amateur Athletic Confederation.

With 48 members in seven zones and, therefore, 48 votes, Diack carried a lot of clout, particularly if he voted the same way as Essa Al-Dashti, a council member and senior vice-president of the Asian AAA. Asia's 41 votes and Africa's 48 gave those two continents 89 of the council's 181 votes, and it was clear after a five-hour sitting of the council that my fate was sealed.

On April 16, 1988, *The Independent* quoted Al-Dashti as saying: "It will go very bad for Budd", and added that he shook his head when asked if I would ever run again. Diack and Al-Dashti could, therefore, sway any meeting from the onset and if anti-South African sentiments played any part in my suspension, it is worth noting that Europe's 35 votes includes countries such as the Soviet Union, East Germany, Romania and Czechoslovakia, none of which could be expected to look favourably on a woman who was widely regarded as having used Britain as a passport of convenience.

In addition, the North and Central American vote of 32 includes Jamaica, Cuba and Trinidad, all known opponents of apartheid.

The best thing to come out of the sordid mess surrounding my 12-month suspension was meeting Mike Pieterse again. He is a member of a prominent Bloemfontein family and I met him casually in 1986. I never dreamed then that we would end up getting married.

At a time when I was feeling very unsure of myself after being sacrificed by the IAAF, I suddenly found this wonderful man and it was virtually love at first sight.

Within a month, I knew Mike was the sort of man a girl dreams about — solid, dependable, loving and a lot of fun. We did not even talk about athletics and the relationship developed so fast that I knew I had to do something. I took the initiative! "Listen, Mike," I said to him one day. "If you want this relationship to grow and become stronger I have to have a commitment from you. Let's get married."

Once we were engaged we did not waste time. The wedding was set for April 15, 1989 and I was really looking forward to it. I know that a bride's wedding day is supposed to be the biggest of her life, but I was more nervous before mine than I was before any race, and in a way, it was worse getting married than it was running in the 1984 Olympic Games.

I know that I am going to be happy with Mike, who will support me no matter what decisions I make about my athletics career. He was there for me when I tackled the problem of whether to make one last attempt at competing internationally and we were in complete agreement when I decided to call it quits. The difficult years overseas have altered my approach to my sport and if South Africa were to be re-admitted to world athletics tomorrow, I do not think I would take part.

I am content as Zola Pieterse and the choice I had to make was not as straightforward as it appeared on the outside. It was not as simple as running in South Africa or running overseas, but rather a choice between running and life. I chose life.

© Zola Budd Trust 1989.

● Extracted from *Zola, The Autobiography of Zola Budd*, published this month by Partridge Press (£12.95).

GARDENING

Graduated shades of autumn

Francesca Greenoak admires the Oxford greens, reds and golds in the city's botanical gardens

I always make a trip to the Oxford Botanic Garden at about this time of year, as it is at its quietest and most reflective in the mistiness of late autumn. Although it has relaxed from the intricate, formal knots of the 17th century, the garden has retained a crisp layout of symmetrical paths that conduct you through the network of narrow, plant-filled beds. Timothy Walker, the superintendent of the garden, concludes that after 369 years of trial and re-arrangement the "Oxford Botanic has got it about right: the narrow beds and borders are both attractive to casual visitors and accessible to serious gardeners and students, and the overall arrangement is scientifically sound, as well as pleasing to the eye".

For all its venerable importance, this is a homely garden. You can get an initial grasp of what its four and a half acres contain in an hour or so, without the feeling of frustrated inadequacy experienced by grappling with large gardens in too short a time. The area is neatly subdivided into an old walled area, a triangle beyond backing on to Christchurch meadow, and a narrow triangle bounded by the River Cherwell, and is more full than first appears, without giving the impression of being crammed. There is always something to see; I've been coming for nearly 20 years, dropping in every time I go to Oxford, and I still find an interesting new plant, or an old stager revealed anew.

The Oxford Botanic rarely buys new plants but, as part of an international group of botanic gardens, it exchanges seeds, plants and cuttings. The adage "if you want to save a plant, give it away" is one which proves itself over and again.

A rare *Clerodendum myrmiphyllum*, given by Kew Gardens to the Botanic Gardens at Glasgow, died out in both places, but luckily it had been passed on to Oxford where new plants were propagated and restored to the sister establishments.

Don't let anyone tell you that establishments holding similar collections ought to be "rationalized" to a single entity; in research and resources it is necessary to have guaranteed back-up. The plants are studied and used by the Department of Plant Science at Oxford, as well as providing a resource bank for use worldwide.

Like almost every institution concerned with basic research and conservation, the Oxford Botanic is short of funds. Walker manages the Oxford garden with considerably fewer staff than in earlier times. He is promoting a more outward-looking policy for the garden, and is gradually building up materials and services which will help people get the most out of a visit. There might well be more visitors if the entrance were better signposted and the famous 17th century gates less forbidding to those who are not aware that entry is encouraged and free (although a voluntary collection box put up this week has been filling up).

A booklet, written by Walker and published this year, lists the garden's plants, describes the history of and directs attention to specialist parts, such as the bog garden, the historic rose display and the rock garden. The glass houses also have interesting treasures, with alpine plants, ferns, a large pool with tropical water lilies and foliage and flower-filled borders, as well as collections of palms used in teaching programmes.

I must admit that part of the reason that I go at this time of year is to see the rare sorb apple trees (*Sorbus dometica*), and to nibble some of the fruits that speckle the ground beneath them, but the autumn-winter cusp has other delights. The liquidambar looks like something out of a fairy-tale, turned to a glorious yellow-gold, standing within a pool of leaves of the same colour. Down by the pool the tall royal ferns turn lemon-gold and then rich brown, while the large hostas expire in honey-coloured fountains. The birds and squirrels, normally hidden among the foliage, are much in evidence.

During the past few years several mature trees have been lost through age or storm damage. There were gaps in the boundary tree-line looking across to Christchurch meadow — "we need a few thumping big trees of interest there", as the superintendent puts it. Among the replacement plantings are the red oak, *Quercus cerris*, with its mossy acorn cups, the native small-leaved lime, *Tilia cordata*, the tulip tree, *Liriodendron tulipifera*, and *Malus trilobata*, an unusual member of the apple genus with leaves like a maple.

Flowers are particularly valued late in the year. In the rock garden the early autumn flowering snowdrop, *Galanthus reginae-olgae*, is flowering well, and nearby the rare early-flowering Japanese quince, Valerie Finnis, blooms red with gold centre. In the glade of viburnums the early-flowering ones bloom in pinky-white clusters against bare wood: among them, the popular hybrid x bodnantense with V. farreri (one of its parent species) and a pink-tinged version labelled Farrer's Pink. Against a north-facing wall, a large plant of the fragrant evergreen climbing shrub *Choisya ternata* already has a few buds showing their white petals.

In the same border two glossy-leaved Mediterranean foxgloves, deceived by the temperate weather, have hopefully raised flowering spikes, almost certainly to be nipped by the frost. Another tender and beautiful plant, the Mediterranean salvia, *Salvia leucantha*, with its dainty buddleia-like foliage splendidly hung with mauve and milky-white flower-tails, defies the autumn, while at the other end of the bed *Salvia weigens* blooms a sulky crimson. Outside the greenhouse, the attractive little plant *Polygonum capitatum* is still blooming among the tender, scented pelargoniums.

The plants which are at risk during the chill Oxford winter are propagated as replacements if the outside plants are lost. As the past two years have been mild, plants usually pruned by the winter weather, such as the handsome melianthus and the tree mallows (*Lavatera arborea*) have come through unscathed and are growing to embarrassing proportions.

Frustration builds up during October for Tim Walker: "I hate sitting on my hands as the garden tips into autumn, but November is marvellous; we can get out there, clear, cut back and dig." "Tucking the garden up for winter" is work he enjoys: folding leaves of the gunnera over its tender heart, to make a kind of tent, neatly pegged with small, slender bamboos; blanketing the Erythina with bracken from the bluebell wood at Nuneham (where the university arboretum is situated). "We went back to using bracken rather than peat, which gets sodden in wet, wintry weather," Walker explained, "although for some things like the lemon verbena (*Aloysia triphylla*) we use both — peat around the stem and bracken padding. Packing with peat encourages suckering, so we use it on plants where a proliferation of stems is desirable, such as the ceratostigmas."

As for the future, "on the broad canvas, the Oxford Botanic will be used to teach the crucial importance of conservation of species and habitats" and, focusing on the cultivation and propagation of individual species, "the Canary Island echiums on the south-facing wall of the office are due to flower in splendid pink and blue spires next year". Watch this space.

● *The Oxford Botanic Garden is situated just over Magdalen Bridge opposite the college. Open every day except Christmas Day and Good Friday, 9am-5pm (9am-4.30pm during winter). Greenhouses open every day 2-4pm. Entry is free, but donations welcome. A Friends of the Oxford Botanic Garden is soon to be launched, with newsletters, guided garden walks and demonstrations, seed lists and selected plant prints. Enquiries to the Superintendent, Oxford University Botanic Garden, Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AX.*

CLARE ROBERTS

Oxford Botanic Garden in the fall: *Liquidambar styraciflua*, left, and *Salvia leucantha*, right

ORGANIC GARDENING

Seed companies have taken organic ideas on board this year. Even Suttons has devoted four of its 128 pages to an organic section, consisting of a lively introduction by Geoff Hamilton, and his 10 selected vegetables with pest and disease resistance (Suttons Seeds, Hele Road, Torquay TQ2 7QT).

Researching a diverse range of plants has long been a concern of the HDRA, whose comprehensive "1990 Organic Gardening Catalogue" describes a wide range of vegetables and salad plants, ornamental flower seeds and wild flowers, backed up by garden sundries, including organic manures and approved fertilisers and pesticides (HDRA, The National Centre for Organic Gardening, Brighton-on-Dunsmore, Coventry CB8 3LG).

Suffolk Seeds's informative 1990 catalogue is also available this week, with its strong vegetable section, organic sundries and unequalled herb section which lists 13 tempting basils (Suffolk Seeds, Sawyers Farm, Little Cornard, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 09Y).

WEEKEND TIPS

● Remove the first buds from indoor cyclamen in their second (or subsequent) year of flowering to encourage strong growth.

● Prune greenhouse and conservatory grapes, to one or two buds from the main stem, choosing an outward-pointing bud.

● Make sure quince and late apples are picked and stored (sliced quince will freeze uncooked) — leave medlars on the trees to soften.

● Prune established blackcurrant bushes, taking out dead and diseased wood. If they are growing too large or spindly, cut back between a quarter to a third of the old (darker coloured) wood.

● Keep drains and ditches clear of leaves and other debris. When stretching and digging, make sure you keep within your physical capabilities, avoiding any risk of backstrain.

Plant out the future

On December 15, the World Conservation Union (WCU) and the World Wide Fund for Nature will start to promote greater co-operation between the world's 1,500 botanic gardens in the conservation of endangered plants.

WCU hopes to establish new gardens in areas of high plant diversity, such as the tropics and sub-tropics. It is intended to involve the local communities more in their botanic gardens, and persuade the public of the need for conservation and development of plant resources.

Botanic gardens have long been associated with medicine and pharmacy. The original European botanic gardens in the 16th century were university foundations, aimed primarily at providing material for medical students, a link that has gradually diminished.

More recently, the gardens have been involved in rescue work. In November last year, *Ruizia cordata*, which had become extinct in the wild, was reintroduced into its only home, Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean. The botanic garden at Brest in France had used the last two surviving specimens for conservation.

Another sucess story involved *Ramosmania heterophylla*, a threatend tree native to the Indian Ocean island of Rodrigues. In the wild it has been reduced to a single surviving plant. Two cuttings were sent to Kew Gardens in 1986 and several new plants were raised. A single young tree was delivered back to Mauritius in April this year and, after a period of acclimatization, the specimen will be planted among the island's collection of rare and threatened local plants.

Botanic gardens also need to be concerned with the conservation, restoration and management of natural habitats. The conservation of plants outside their natural habitat, in gardens or seed banks, is justifiable only as part of an overall strategy to ensure a species survives in the wild.

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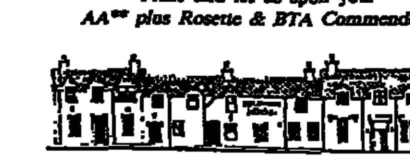

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Craven District Council
Granville Street, Skipton
North Yorkshire BD23 1PS
Telephone: Skipton (0756) 700600
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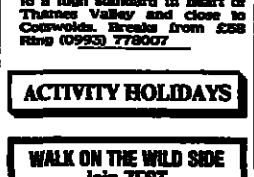

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LOOKING FOR Early snow? Serre Chevalier opens December 2nd. Good snow falls already reported. For early bird rates, full season info & brochure call Snowy Mountain on 0962 712415. ATOL 2610.

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Continued from page 40

ENTERTAINMENTS

THEATRES

PHOENIX THEATRE WC2 01-836 2294/240 9661 or cc with bkg fee 01-379 4444/741 9999/240 7200 Group sales 01-930 6123
THE BAKER'S WIFE
by Joseph Stein & Stephen Schwartz
directed by TREVOR NUNN
Previews Today
Eves 7.30, Thur and Sat Mat 2.30. Opens Monday at 7pm

PICCADILLY 867 1118 cc 867 1111/379 4444 741 9999 bkg fee
DOROTHY TUTIN & PETER McENERY
"Superb in Sondheim's Smash" Ind
SUSAN HAMPSHIRE ERIC FLYNN
"Enchanting" "Excellent" Whats On Guardian
LILA KEDROVA
"Irresistible" Times
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
by STEPHEN SONDHEIM
WINNER 1989 EVENING STANDARD SPECIAL AWARD
"Haunting, hilarious and brilliant" S Times
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0
NOW BOOKING TO MARCH '90

PLAYHOUSE 01-839 4401 cc 240 7200 (bkg fee) From 12 Dec in repertoire for a Christmas season WINNIE-THE-POOH by A A Milne and ENID BLYTON'S NODDY.

PLAYHOUSE 01 839 4401 First Call 24hr 7day 01 836 3464 Limited Season 27 Nov - 9 Dec 8pm. COME FOR THE RIDE with
PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE
& Chuck Mallett at the piano
a unique musical journey

PLAYHOUSE BO & cc 839 4401 (no bkg fee) cc 836 3464 (24 hrs) 741 9999/379 4444 (bkg fee)
LEO McKERN
as
BOSWELL FOR THE DEFENCE
"SOMETHING SPECIAL: JOYOUSLY COMIC...IT WOULD BE A CRIME TO MISS IT" D.Mail.
Eves at 8pm Sat Mat at 3pm.
LAST DAY

PRINCE EDWARD 734 8951 First Call 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 (bkg fee) 379 4444 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123
ELAINE PAIGE
BERNARD CRIBBINS & JOHN BARROWMAN
in
ANYTHING GOES
"THE HOTTEST SHOW IN TOWN" Daily Express
"I LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT IT" Daily Mail
Choreographed by MICHAEL SMUIN
Directed by JERRY ZAKS
Eves 7.30 Mats Thur & Sat 2.30
CAST ALBUM AVAILABLE ON FIRST NIGHT RECORDS NOW

PRINCE OF WALES Box Office 01 839 5972 CC First Call 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 (bkg fee)/Open All Hours 379 6131 (bkg fee)
ASPECTS OF LOVE
"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST" D.Tel
Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART
Directed by TREVOR NUNN
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.0
Queue daily for returns. Strictly no admittance for latecomers
NOW BOOKING APR - SEPT '90

QUEENS BO 734 1166/379 4444 /741 9999/240 7200 AT NO BKG FEE. GROUPS 930 6123
NIGEL HAWTHORNE JANE LAPOTAIRE
'Masterly' Tms 'Virtuoso' STms
SHADOWLANDS
'Packed with emotional bombshells' T.Out
'Unbearably Moving' Std
'A Joy to the End' DEx
Eves 8.00 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

ROYAL COURT 730 1745 cc 836 2428 Must end 9 Dec APPLES the musical by Ian Dury. Music by Mickey Gallagher. Eves 8pm Sat Mat 4pm.

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888 CC No fees 01-836 3464 (24hr 7-day) 01-379 6219 Grs 01-831 2771, 01-240 7941 01-836 8889 Preview 7 Dec Opens 8 Dec
PAUL DANIELS
IT'S MAGIC
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 (13 Dec 8.15, 26 Dec - Jan 6 incl. Twice daily 2.30 & 7.30) Child reductions avail. at most perfs. Limited Season Must End Feb 3

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888 CC 379 6219 Groups 01-836 8889 1st Call 24hr 7-day CC 01-836 3464 (No bkg fee) Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (Bkg fee)
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in repertoire with
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THE MIKADO
"Excellent" Standard.
Nov 30 - Dec 2
"It's superb theatre"
Mail on Sunday
Eves 7.30 Mats Weds, Sat 2.30
FINAL WEEK

SHAFTESBURY Box Office & cc 379 5399 CC (bkg fee) 379 4444/ 240 7200/741 9999
Eves 8 Fri & Sat 5 & 8.15
"THE POWER PLAY OF THE YEAR" Std
PETER EGAN
in
M. BUTTERFLY
by David Henry Hwang
Directed by John Dexter
"QUITE BRILLIANT" SMir
NOW BOOKING TO APR 1990

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THE MOUSETRAP

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Group Sales 930 6123
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ALEC McCOWEN
and EILEEN ATKINS
EXCLUSIVE
by JEFFREY ARCHER
Directed by MICHAEL RUDMAN
Eves 7.30 Thu Mat 3 Sat 4.30 & 8
MUST END DEC 9

STRATFORD UPON AVON Box Office and cc (0789) 295623 Royal Shakespeare Company. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE: As You Like It "an outrageous stroke of brilliance" S.Corr. Mat Today 1.30. All's Well That Ends Well. Coriolanus opens Thurs 7.30pm. SWAN THEATRE: Pericles "Splendid production" Ind. Mat Today 1.30. THE DUCHESS OF MALFI by Webster opens Wed 7.30pm. Meal/ Ticket/ Hotel package (0789) 414999.

VAUDEVILLE 01 836 9987/5645 cc (no bkg fee) 01 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999. Grps 240 7941.
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BARNABY
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Mats Thurs 2.30, Sat 4.30

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MAUREEN LIPMAN in
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with Denis King
Directed by Alan Strachan
MUST END SATURDAY

VICTORIA PALACE 01-834 1317 CC 01-379 4444/240 7200/741 9999 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123
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ALBERT FINNEY
'devastating inner power' D Mail
JANET SUZMAN
'quite magnificent' Ind
SARA KESTELMAN
'brilliant' FT
DAVID de KEYSER
'glorious' Std
CHRISTIEN ANHOLT
'excellent' D Tel
in
ANOTHER TIME
'absorbing, amusing and serious' Daily Telegraph
"easily Ronald Harwood's best work since 'The Dresser'" FT
"Elijah Moshinsky's impeccable direction" S Tms
Eves 8 Mats Wed 3 & Sat 4

WESTMINSTER 01-834 0283/4 cc 834 0048/379 4444 (no bkg fee) Two Narnian plays From 5 Dec THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW From 16 Jan THE LION, THE WITCH & THE WARDROBE (Sunday Perfs).

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LUMIERE CINEMA St Martin's Lane WC2 379 3014/836 0691 HELEN MIRREN & MICHAEL GAMBON in THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE & HER LOVER (18) directed by PETER GREENAWAY Progs 1.10 3.35 6.05 8.40. Film at 1.20 3.45 6.15 8.50. Late Night Fri/Sat 11.15pm. SEATS BOOKABLE ACCESS/VISA.

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Commercial Lawyers, Legal Officers, Private and Public Practice with editorial.
Public Sector Appointments: with editorial.

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Creative & Media Appointments: Media and Marketing with editorial.
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THURSDAY
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FRIDAY
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Business to Business: Business opportunities.

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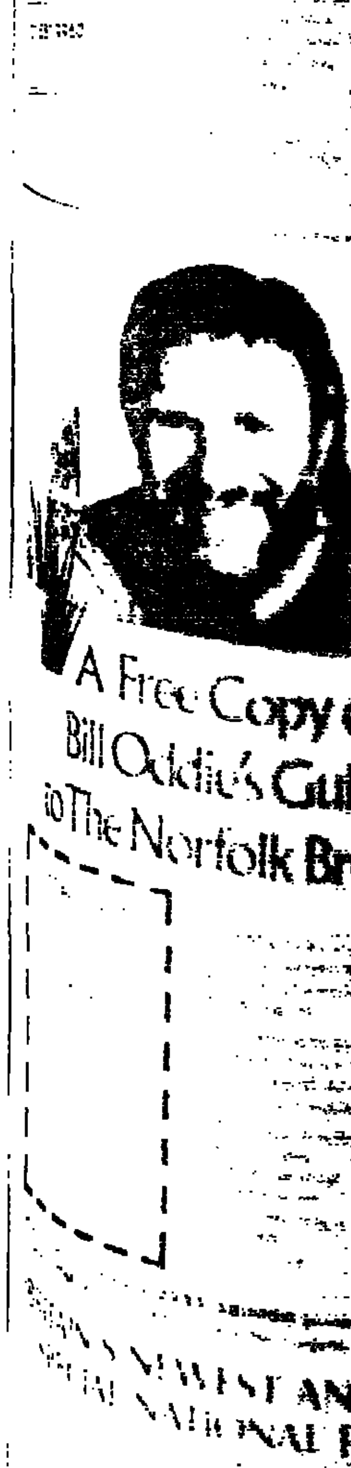


TRAVEL

Altered states of consciousness

Suicidal ski-jumps, hard drinking, the paintings of Edvard Munch and the harshness of the sea: Pat Butcher gets to grips with the long, dark night of the Norwegian soul

LEONARD FREED

Nordic eroticism: the stony, convolnted poses of Gustav Vigeland's statnes in Frogner Park, Oslo strike a painful note of tortured sensuality that is echoed in other aspects of Norwegian life

The view from the top of the Holmenkollen ski jump, overlooking Oslo and its fiord, solicits one overriding reflection: "These people have got to be *out of their minds* to slide down here into infinity."

There is much else in Norway to bolster the impression of strange states of mind. There are the paintings of Edvard Munch, the plays of Henrik Ibsen, the books of Knut Hamsun, the three Modernist masters who illustrated, painfully, the long, dark night of the north European soul.

Then, there are the drunks. Oslo is the first place I ever saw somebody truly blind-drunk. He was groping down a street, grasping the tell-tale clinking plastic bag, using the wall both as a prop and for guidance. It is not just the derelicts. A French friend, considering marriage to a Norwegian businessman, accompanied him home for a month to see how they would get on. She left after a week, defeated by a combination of dismal winter weather and the smell of alcohol on his breath at breakfast.

But stepping over a few drunks down by the quayside is the worst of the city's problems. An American colleague, in Oslo for the first time last summer, was astounded to see women walking by themselves through the Palace Park at two in the morning.

On the principle that no museum visit should last beyond one hour — the brain and veins, *in that order, cannot* take it — the Munch Museum is one of Oslo's "musts". It is one of the most accessible of the international collections dedicated to a single *oeuvre*. Munch's early years in Italy resulted in a series of Mediterranean tableaux, improbably vivacious if one is only familiar with his frightening later work, the best known and most disturbing being "The Shriek". But equally striking in a different fashion is "Madonna", a breathtakingly sensuous painting (and woodcut), a masterpiece of religio-eroticism.

In a similar vein, Frogner Park may not be the best place to take a maiden aunt, unless she is like the one in the Graham Greene title. Bordering the central avenue are the statues of Gustav Vigeland, a series of stony convoluted poses, which even naked human flesh might have problems adopting. The *pièce de résistance* is the totem (*pace* Freud) on the hill in the centre of the park, which comprises dozens of bodies crawling up and around a phallic pole.

Until 1924, Oslo was called Christiania, a legacy of Danish rule, as is the language, which is comprehensible to both Danes and Swedes. But, as in most of Scandinavia, English is widely spoken. With a population of barely half a million, the city is quite accessible on foot, although there is a good, clean underground train service and a slightly ramshackle, but immensely appealing suburban train system, part funicular, which travels west and north into the hills and mountains.

Fiord hotel at Holmenkollen

The most spectacular ride is the 30-minute trip up to Frognerseteren terminus, with the intermediate stop at Holmenkollen. Near both stations, in the middle of miles of walking and skiing trails, are sturdy chalet-type restaurants, serving excellent food. Holmenkollen is particularly good at lunchtime, with a set menu, buffet style, which offers as much salmon, soused herring, *et al* as you can eat for about £14. A window seat affords the most magnificent view down across the fiord, whence planes taking off from Fornebu need about two minutes to reach eye level.

A diagram at the foot of the tower supporting the adjacent ski jump at Holmenkollen tracks the rise in elevation of the jump, from a shallow curve 50 years ago to the present suicidal parabola. Mini-jumps, three and five metres high, testify to toddlers' training grounds in the surrounding forest. Norway is no place to take a skiing ego, what with infant prodigies pirouetting past every 10 seconds or so.

Down in the town, Bislett stadium, with its statue of Grete Waitz on the forecourt, has been host to some 60 world athletics records, many of the most recent belonging to the Brits, Seb Coe, Steve Ovett and Steve Cram. It is also an ice stadium. Norway's speed skaters are not as good as they were, but the hunger for success on ice here is as intense as it is for football in England.

Swein-Arne Hansen, the promoter of Bislett athletics, recalls the last time a Norwegian was in the finals of the world championship 5,000 metres. "I had to drive to see a relative who was ill. The roads were almost deserted, everybody was watching the race on television. I was listening to it on the car radio. Then, up ahead, I saw another car go off the road and roll down a bank. I stopped to help the driver out, and the first thing he said was: 'How did he get on?' "

With its thousands of kilometres of coastline, bordering Sweden in the south to the Soviet Union in the northeast, the sea has been as important as snow to Norwegians. The museums on Bigdoy peninsula — a 10-minute ferry ride from Oslo harbour — house several ocean craft which have been used in some of the greatest sea adventures ever undertaken; Kon-Tiki, the raft which Thor Heyerdahl and his crew used to advance the theory that Polynesians could have emigrated from South America; Ra II, the papyrus reed boat that Heyerdahl employed on a similar voyage of ethnic discovery across the Atlantic; Fram, the polar boat, which has been the farthest north and south, with Fridtjof Nansen and Roald Amundsen; and, finally, burial ships of the Vikings whose voyages into the unknown oceans required a spirit of fearlessness which still finds an echo in those lonely figures who slide to the edge of the Holmenkollen ski jump and keep going.

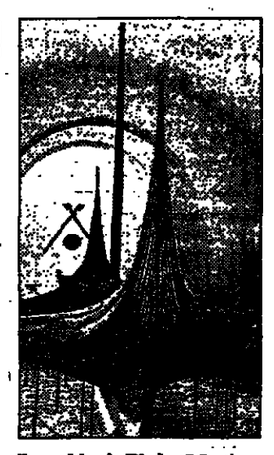
● *Suggested reading: Hunger, by Knut Hamsun, is published by Picador (£3.95).*

TRAVEL NOTES

● British Airways and SAS, Scandinavian Airlines, have daily flights from Heathrow to Oslo. Fares begin at £172 return, with 14 days' notice and a Saturday night included. Information: BA (01-897 4000); SAS (01-897 1585). There are also flights from Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen; and boats from Harwich and Newcastle.

● Star Tour of Scandinavia (01-706 2520) offers a weekly charter flight from Gatwick, leaving Thursday, returning Sunday, from £69 return.

● Air Europe flies daily from Gatwick to Oslo from £1.51 return, with cheaper youth fares (up tp age 25). Reservations 0345 444737.



Longships in Bigdoy Museum

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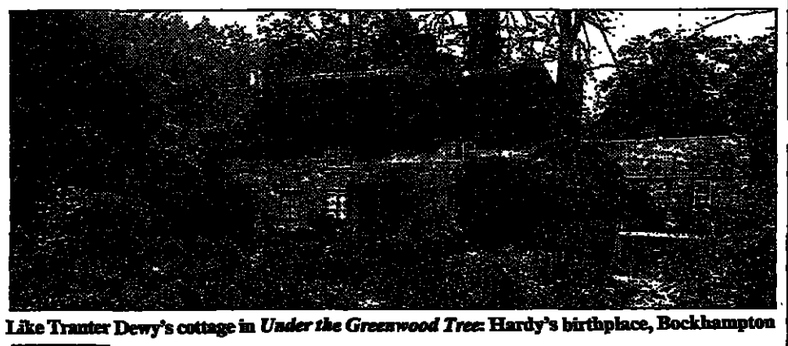
Wessex wanderings

Jenny Nisbet explores the melancholy landscapes, rural and urban, that inspired Thomas Hardy



Like Tranter Dewy's cottage in Under the Greenwood Tree: Hardy's birthplace, Bockhampton

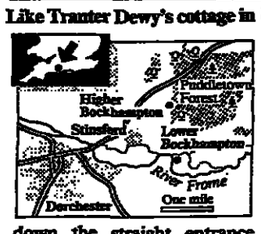
Autumn is a good time to tour Thomas Hardy's Wessex, profound melancholy being part of this author's most prized stock in trade. "Ah, here's the Roman milestone where poor Fanny Robin measured her weary way down to the Casterbridge workhouse. Oh look! Ten Hatches weir, where Henchard contemplated drowning himself . . ."

Hardy's tendency was towards the tragic but, whether wreathed in Victorian gloom or not, his boyhood Dorset with its water-meadows, heaths and country towns is always felicitously evoked.

"Casterbridge was the complement of the rural life around; not its urban opposite. Bees and butterflies in the cornfields at the top of the town, who desired to get to the meads at the bottom, took no circuitous course, but flew straight down High Street without any apparent consciousness that they were traversing strange latitudes."

So Hardy described the Roman town of Dorchester and, standing in the High Street today, you can see their flight path down the mellow, curving thoroughfare, the countryside beckoning at either end of the town. Tawny leaves skim along the pavement and still steal "through people's doorways into their passages with a hesitating scratch on the floor, like the skirts of timid visitors".

Hardy wrote about the Dorchester of his parents' time when, on warm autumn days, the front doors were left open, the inhabitants sanguine about the possibility of *umbrella stealers*, and where the casual observer could see



down the straight entrance passages into gardens dimly glowing with nasturtiums, fuchsias, scarlet geraniums, snapdragons and dahlias.

At the King's Arms Hotel, you can sit in a glass conservatory next to Henchard's Bar and eat lamb curry. This pretty 17th-century inn, remodelled in the early 19th century, was Hardy's King's Arms. I would rather have lunched at the front, in the room with its great bay window above the portico, the scene of Michael Henchard's triumph and fall in the *Mayor of Casterbridge*. This is where Susan, the wife he has sold, first sees him again taking the chair at "a great public dinner of the gentle-people and such like leading folk".

Hardy's shade gently broods over South Street. Barclays Bank, a handsome mid-18th-century dwelling, was Henchard's house, and a plaque proclaims the fact. But, behind it, instead of a store-yard with wooden granaries, there is a Waitrose supermarket.

On the corner, facing the town pump, is where Hardy placed Lucetta's Palladian residence, High-Place Hall; from the windows, she could see the bustling market below. Now there is a straight line of modern shop fronts, but a vestige of the market remains *in a few lacklustre stalls and a van selling hamburgers.*

Max Gate stands just off the Dorchester-Wareham road, built in 1883 by Hardy's brother, Henry, to Hardy's design. High hedges surround it, planted there by the author principally as a wind-break, but also to keep out prying eyes. The present occupants, who rent it from the National Trust, are equally retiring and their notice, "Danger, Cats in Drive", is strangely alarming.

From Max Gate, Hardy could look across the Frome Valley to his roots at Higher Bockhampton, Lower Bockhampton and Stinsford. This is *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* country, the Vale of the Great Dairies, with the cows as "thick as burghers on a Van Alsloot canvas".

I followed in Tess's youthful footsteps across the water meadows, which in autumn have an eerie, silver-tinted flatness. Hardy described them as lying "like a white sea, out of which the scattered trees rose like dangerous rocks", and I felt quite relieved to reach the reassuring, russet safety of Lower Bockhampton.

Hardy's birthplace stands in an acre of grounds at the top of the hamlet the author's granny called Veterans' Valley because it was inhabited mainly by retired soldiers who had served in the Napoleonic Wars. Pretty as any Helen Allingham painting, the benign house, with its overhanging thatch, uneven windows, three chimneys and faded brick walls, looks like Tranter Dewy's cottage in *Under the Greenwood Tree.*

Box and laurustinus flourish in the cottage garden, shaded by surviving beeches, but the "untamable" heathland that stretched from the back door, Hardy's Egdon, is now full of Forestry Commission Christmas trees.

In Stinsford churchyard, a few minutes' drive away, the leaves blow russet, scarlet and gold, yellow chrysanthemums bloom, and late, late roses flower bravely. Here Hardy's heart is buried between his two wives, Emma and Florence. Stinsford is the Mellstock of Hardy's novels and poems and was, so he asserted, his Stoke Poges. Its essential peace, "far from the madding crowd", was a constant source of inspiration. At Stinsford church his grandfather, father and uncle had played their violins and cellos at the services, and they now lie alongside him in the churchyard.

It is wildly romantic, in a High Victorian way, a secluded triptych of church, pretty vicarage and noble, decaying *Stinsford House*. Little wonder that this is where Hardy's mother fell in love with his handsome builder father, a scene described by the poet in "A Church Romance", which ends:

Thus their hearts' bond began, in due time signed.
And long years thence, when Age had scared Romance,
At some old attitude of his or glance
That gallery-scene would break upon her mind,
With him as minstrel, ardent, young and trim,
Bowing 'New Sabbath' or 'Mount Ephraim'.

● The 150th anniversary of Hardy's birth will be celebrated throughout Dorset next summer. Details from Wessex Heritage (0300 20671).

NEXT SATURDAY

Peter Guilford visits some of Indonesia's least known and most colourful islands

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Eyes down, look in on the Brighton Line

Roland White played bingo, and managed a bit of sightseeing, on a P&O cruise in the Mediterranean

MIKE JAY

A European tour of American velocity: among onshore attractions is the watery landscape of San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice. . .

Ranks of sunbathers lay motionless on the top deck of the Royal Princess, transforming the flagship of the P & O fleet into a 44,000-tonne lilo. There was no interest in deck quoits; the mini golf clubs lay unused; there was no one for tennis. After dashing around five port towns in five days, our first full day at sea was a chance to rest.

There had been a little light sightseeing earlier that morning, just for form's sake. We had squeezed through the Straits of Messina and pointed expensive video cameras at the volcanic island of Stromboli. Now it was time for something more substantial to round off the afternoon. We did not have long to wait. "Bing! Bong!" rang out the ship's public address system. "Hi there, ladies and gentlemen. This is Scott from your cruise staff – and have we got excitement for you in the International Lounge! Yes, it's Bingo! Bingo! with a $500 prize."

Forget the Colosseum, forget the temple at Delphi: bingo is what seems to pull in the crowds at sea. Dolly, an experienced cruiser of uncertain age, had even brought a duck whistle on which she would blow at the call: "Two little ducks, 22." Nobody was very good at bingo; the jackpot prize of $1,000 remained unclaimed after 10 days, so cruise director Bill Allison split it into smaller prizes. But there was no doubting the enthusiasm. Balancing several cards apiece, the crowd were obviously regulars. "Number 20, Bill's cabin," announced Scott. "Where the door is always open," came the thunderous reply. "Five and nine – the Brighton line," he called. Two hundred imaginary train whistles were pulled: "Toot! Toot!"

This is a strange feature of modern cruising. At night, the passengers glide about in dinner jackets and evening gowns, pretending they are on the Queen Mary. There are cocktail parties attended by officers in gleaming white uniforms. The captain tells jokes and gently teases passengers, the deputy captain shakes your hand and says: "Hello, I come from Warwick." But, during the day, it's bingo and doing the ironing. If P & O could find room for a skittle alley, no doubt it would do a roaring trade.

There are other attractions on the Royal Princess's Mediterranean cruise, of course: Venice, Dubrovnik, Corfu, Itea (the port for Delphi), Civitavecchia (change for Rome), Livorno (for Pisa and Florence), Genoa, Cannes (for Monte Carlo) and Barcelona. It is a European tour of truly American velocity. On a typical day, the ship docked early in the morning, and its passengers would be streaming off by about nine o'clock. We saw the sights, ate the lunches, bought the souvenirs and were back on ship, exhausted, by 6pm. Then at dinner our fellow guests would tell us about all the wonderful places we had missed – the bar they discovered that only the locals know about, the restaurant that serves the best pizza in Tuscany, the shop that has that cheap leatherwork.

Life at sea soon develops quite an exhausting rhythm: onshore, sights, lunch, shops, ship, swim, change for dinner, pre-dinner cocktails, dinner, ship's cabaret, ship's disco, cabin, sleep, up, onshore . . . and so on. It is, though, possible to forget the alternative delights on offer and devote yourself to eating. Substantial amounts of food are being dished up during 11½ of the 18 hours between 6.30am and 12.30am. And it seems possible to get a drink at any time. Three of the ship's seven bars close only when the last passenger has tottered off to sleep: one night a waiter pulled the shutters up at 5.30 in the morning, and was out on the dockside three hours later, ushering passengers on to tour buses.

Every day a series of tours was offered. These had the faults of any organized coach tour. After the romance of the ship, who wants to be stuck in a bus? They were also rather expensive. At Civitavecchia, we took a taxi to the railway station and a train into Rome for £6. A tour – advertised as Rome On Your Own – would have cost £37. With a little homework it is possible for the adventurous cruiser to have a far more rewarding day ashore than the tour-goer. There are lectures, broadcast on each cabin television, about the ports of call and the ship's library is well stocked with travel guides.

In fact, the ship is pretty well-stocked all round. It was launched in 1984 and it still gleams white. If Stromboli's smoking volcano looked impressive from the Royal Princess, the Royal Princess must have looked just as impressive from Stromboli. It has salt-water and fresh-water swimming pools on deck, a gym, indoor and outdoor whirlpool baths, a shop, a casino, beauty salon, seven bars and lounges. It is possible to learn to play bridge and mah-jong; there are ballroom dancing lessons, clay pigeon shooting, trivia quizzes, roulette and black-jack lessons and as much bingo as your duck whistle can stand.

The evenings are divided into casual, semi-formal and formal, so everybody knows how to dress for dinner. To tell you which evening is which (it is pretty easy to lose track at sea) a newspaper, *Princess Patter*, is delivered to each cabin.

Forget the Colosseum, forget the temple at Delphi: bingo is what seems to pull in the crowds at sea

Many cabins have balconies; nearly all have unrestricted views. For the duration of the cruise it is possible to forget about money. All bills are signed for (on production of your Cruise Card, the equivalent of the Royal Princess credit card) and totted up at the end of the journey. There is even advice about whom to tip, when and how much.

There are some things, though, that even a P & O captain cannot change. The weather – which forced captain John Young to dock in Genoa rather than the original destination, storm-battered Portofino – and European geography, which unfortunately did not impress one American passenger.

"Where are we?" he grunted over the purser's desk on our second day.

"Dubrovnik, sir".

"So where's that?"

"Yugoslavia".

"Oh. Where are we tomorrow?"

"Corfu, sir".

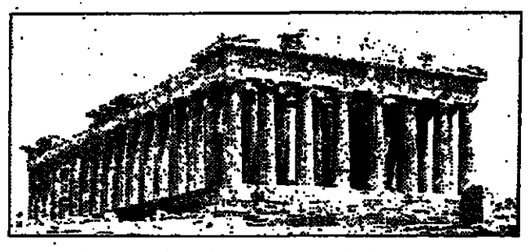
"So where's that?"

"It's a Greek island, sir."

"Oh. That means more ruins, I suppose."

TRAVEL NOTES

- The Royal Princess Mediterranean cruise will call next year at the following ports: Venice, Dubrovnik, Athens, Mykonos, Messina, Civitavecchia, Livorno, Cannes, Barcelona.
- Fares for the 13-day cruise begin at £1,295 (for a twin room, no balcony, blocked view, October) to £4,410 (luxury suite, August/September). Price includes flight from London Gatwick.
- Full details from Princess Voyages, 77 New Oxford Street, London, WC1A 1PP (01-831 1881).



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TRAVEL NEWS

Take a break from Christmas

The big 25th is just a month away. If panic rises as the goodwill starts to flow, there is still a chance to book a mould-breaking escape.

Speedbird can put you on the beach in the Caribbean (St Lucia, one week from £889), or the Indian Ocean (Mombassa on the Kenyan coast, one week from £648, or the Seychelles, two weeks from £1,108). Speedbird's late bookings number is 0293 611600.

Fly back from Mombassa on Boxing Day after soaking up the East African sun on the beach at Malindi. Two weeks' full board with flights to Mombassa is the deal from Tropical Places. Reservations: 0342 824011.

Austravel still has charter based Christmas packages to Australia and New Zealand. Spend a week in Cairns and Coolangatta for £699, or fly out on Christmas evening for a week in Christchurch for £599. Reservations: 01-734 7755.

● If it is lack of Christmas shopping inspiration and not the holiday that weighs heavily, P&O's overnight packages to Calais and Boulogne may be the answer.

For £31 per person for a minimum of two adults travelling in one car, P&O provides the crossing and one night in a hotel with breakfast.

Don't fancy driving? The company also has hypermarket shopping trips by coach from £15 a head with pick-up points between London, Essex and Dover, and along the south coast from Worthing. Reservations: 0304 203388.

● Chalet party skiers can count on working off the Christmas calories while avoiding an overdose of chores. John Morgan still has 10-day holidays with wine and meals, departing December 21. Choose Wengen, Verbier or Flaine for £329; Meribel for £309; or La Plagne, Selva, Megeve or Saas Fee for £289. Reservations: 01-584 6523.

● Cruising is another ruse for avoiding the sprout-peeling marathon. There is still room on Fred Olsen Line's Black Prince for conscientious objectors to washing up. Prices from £825 for a one-week fly-cruise to the Canary Islands with a choice of Gatwick and Manchester departures. Reservations: 0473 233055.

● Boarding controls will apply to some InterCity trains leaving London's King's Cross, Euston and Paddington stations on the busiest days of the Christmas and New Year holiday. Passengers will have to make a seat reservation in advance, or obtain a boarding card at the station. The measure is designed to prevent overcrowding. Seat reservations can be made free of charge for the journeys between December 18 and January 5, 1990.

Shona Crawford Poole
Travel Editor

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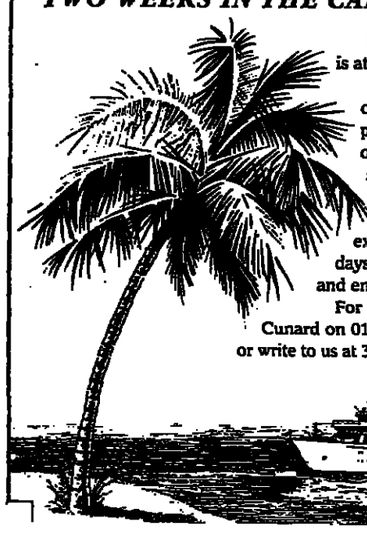

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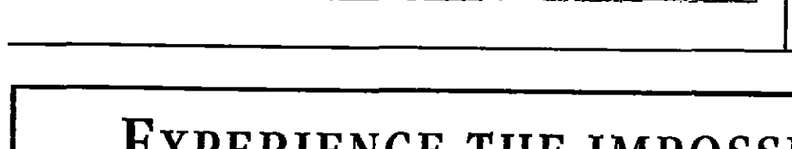

TRAVEL BOOKS

● Italy figures largely in several new travel titles and reprints. The **Blue Guide Rome And Environs** (A & C Black, £12.95) goes into its fourth edition this month. The new excavations and restorations in the Forum and on the Palatine, and the Circus of Maxentius, get the meticulous treatment readers of this well-informed series expect.

● A less daunting wodge of erudition (220 pages against 400 plus) comes in a new addition to *The Times Bartholomew Guide* series, **Rome** (Collins, £7.95). Shorter entries will satisfy those with smaller appetites for the minutiae of church architecture.

● For those who like their history racy, **Rome**, new in the Cadogan Walks series (Cadogan Books, £8.95), will find plenty in the city's scandalous past to divert them.

● Still in Italy, and still in print, is James Money's **Capri: Island of Pleasure** (Hamish Hamilton, £14.95).

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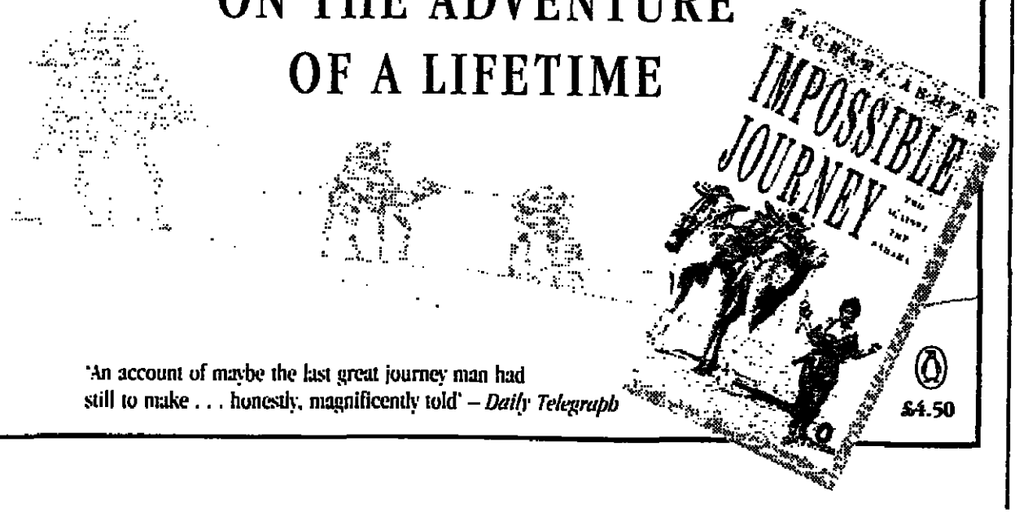

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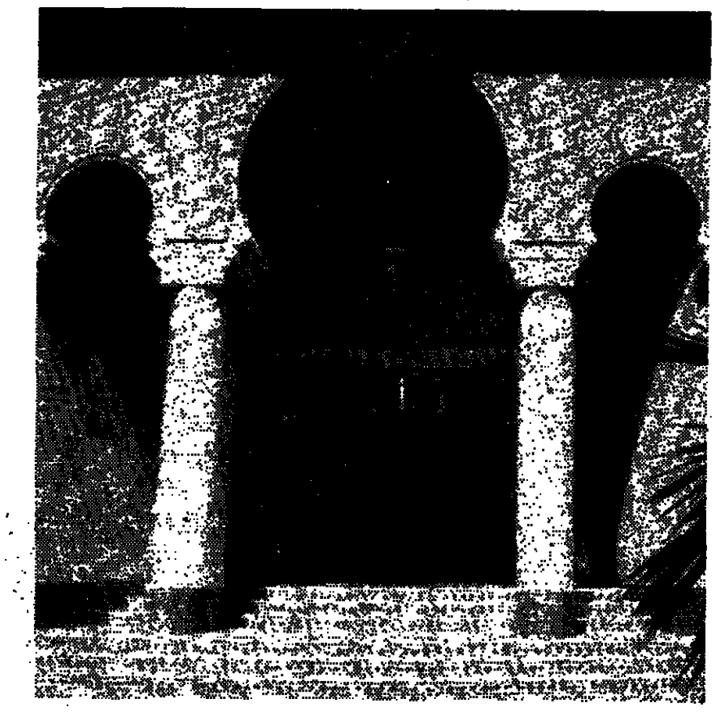

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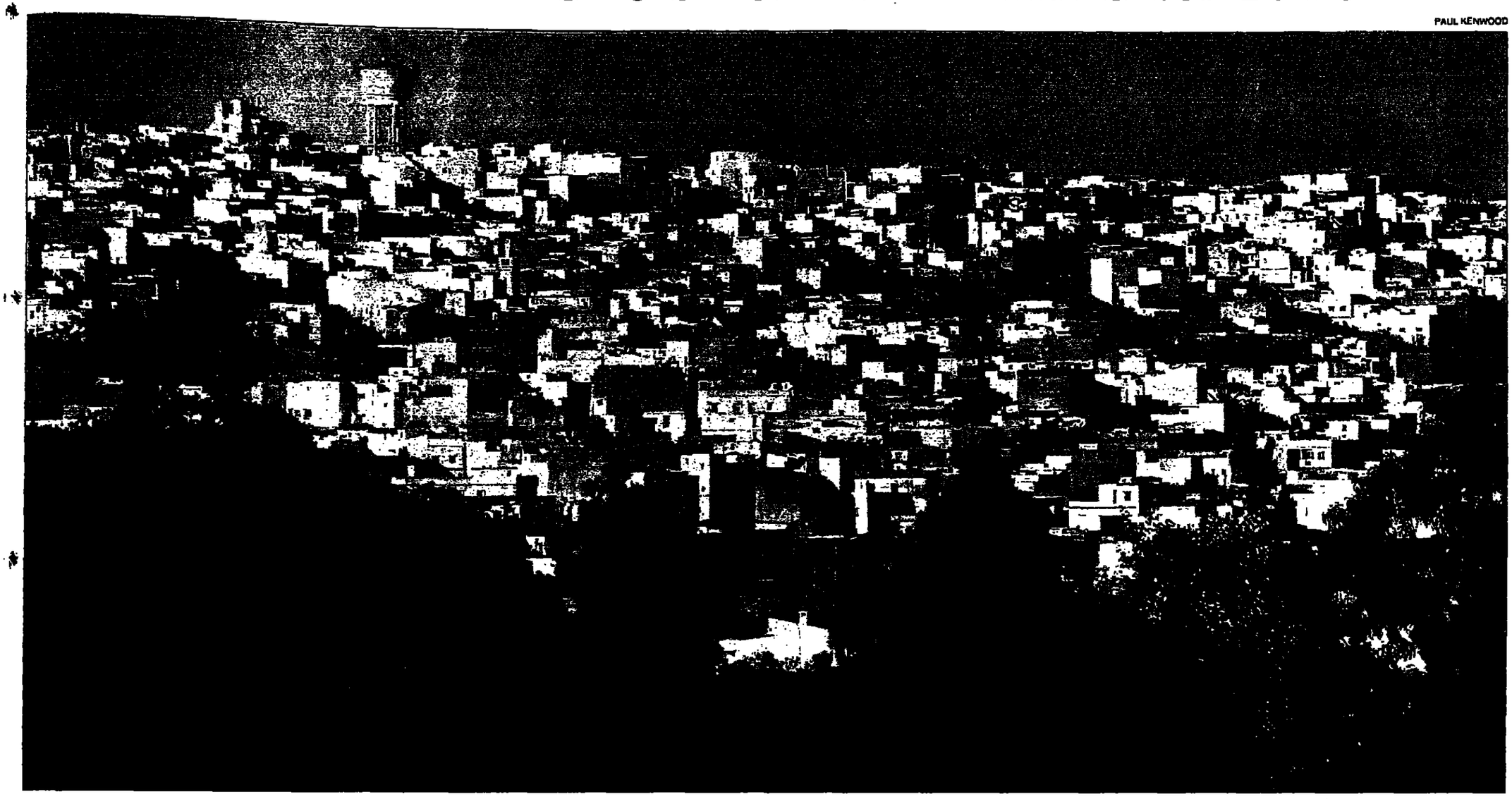
TRAVEL

'Take me to the Kasbah...'

PAUL KENWOOD



Andrew Powell takes some unexpected pleasure in old Tangier

As a child I absorbed the notion that Tangier was a fly-blown, unreliable sort of town; the kind of place where cruise ship captains hesitated before putting their passengers ashore. I cannot say where this unfortunate impression came from, but I never questioned its accuracy.

It was confirmed in adolescence when a relative, obliged to cross from Spain to Gibraltar (which in those days before the frontier opened meant going via Tangier), remarked that she had not the slightest intention of stepping more than 10 feet from the quayside for fear of having her handbag stolen, to say nothing of falling victim to one of those outrages to feminine modesty which, as everybody knew, routinely occurred there.

Later, at university, there were those elegant youths invariably from the very best families, who seemed to take holidays in Morocco with quite astonishing frequency. "For the boys," the socially aspiring girls would remark with scorn.

The steady fermentation of adverse reports over 20 years meant that a recent invitation to spend a long weekend in Tangier met with a lukewarm reception. Aghast at the extent of my prejudice, my would-be benefactor gave vent to a good deal of righteous indignation: "Absolute nonsense . . . wonderful place . . . delicious food . . . charming people . . . best hotel in the Mediterranean . . . worth going for the view across the Straits alone . . . and as for it being dirty, have you walked down Oxford Street lately?"

"All right," I conceded. I'll go. But I warn you, I don't promise to like it."

The plane took off from Gatwick on a blithe morning, one of those rare days when England seems a peerless country with a perfect climate which it would be complete folly to leave.

Arriving to cloudless Moroccan sunshine, I hailed an elderly but well-preserved Mercedes taxi with a meter which actually worked, and in about 20 minutes was in the new part of Tangier: the French bit built in the last 100 years, as opposed to the old city, the Médina, with its fortress and the Kasbah. I just had time to catch a glimpse of one or two lamentably predictable Gallic street names — Boulevard Pasteur, Place de France, Rue de la Liberté — before we drew up in front of the unassuming entrance to the El Minzah Hotel.

Marketing: western influence often clashes with a local custom

Despite being vaguely familiar with Moroccan grand hotels such as the Mamounia in Marrakesh and the Palais Jami in Fez, I had never heard of the El Minzah. But I was immediately entranced. My room, though fairly small and austere, was none the less clean, neat and functional in a recognizably French manner. However, from its white-washed balcony stretched one of the most glorious views imaginable: to the right the beach, esplanade and fishing port; to the left the old town, a jumble of sugar cubes leading to the hilltop fortifications of the Kasbah; and directly in front the Bay of Tangier, the Straits and, in the distance, the tawny coast of Spain, its bare hills given scale by the white fleck of the lighthouse at Tarifa.

Having leaned on the parapet for close to an hour, I finally went to see what else the hotel had to offer. Leading out of the rather cramped lobby, was a gloomy passage which abruptly opened into a tiled, galleried, sunlit courtyard with the obligatory fountain and pool. Beyond this was an old walled garden, unobtrusively maintained in fragrant chaos, and with the sort of swimming-pool that causes extreme mental anguish if inadvertently recollected on an English winter afternoon.

I began to like the El Minzah very much indeed, and by the time I left five days later would have considered no superlative, however outrageous, to be more than a just and sober assessment of its merits.

Later in the evening, before going out for an initiatory meal of couscous, I sauntered into the hotel bar. Rather like the water-rat in *The Wind in the Willows*, when Mole informs him that he has never before set eyes on a river, the barman was appalled to discover my ignorance of Caid's Bar. Surely I knew that Tangier had long been a mecca for the internationally glamorous and unspeakably rich? I said that it had come as news to me, but that I was increasingly prepared to believe it. Winston Churchill used to paint in Tangier; Onassis often moored his yacht here; Alec Waugh was for years chairman of the Tangier Book Club; and all the world knew about Barbara Hutton and the parties she used to throw in the Kasbah. Of course, it wasn't quite the same now as before 1956, when Tangier was an International Zone. But still, Malcolm Forbes, Gore Vidal and King Fahd all still had houses, and, what's more, actually stayed in them. And where, he concluded, did I suppose all these fabulous creatures came for their evening sundowner?

Tangier, it seems, is a city with an insatiable appetite for celebrity, and certainly no one is more celebrated than the Woolworths heiress Barbara Hutton. The following morning my taxi driver and self-appointed guide hustled me to the extremely ordinary gateway (shut) of her house in the Kasbah, where she had mostly lived until her death in 1979. Her notoriety in Tangier stemmed partly from her habit of feeding her stable of camels on rose petals, but mostly from her parties, at which she would sit on a gold throne wearing an emerald and diamond tiara (formerly the property of Catherine the Great), and, if bored by her guests, pay them to leave with wodges of $100 bills.

"She used to hire all the policemen to stand on street corners with lighted tapers to guide her guests to her door. I was a boy then, but I remember it well," my driver mused.

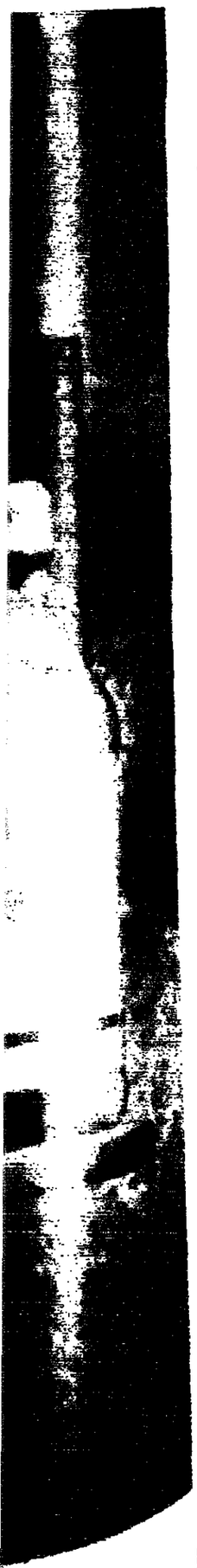
Having with difficulty halted this flood of misty-eyed reminiscence, we wandered off through the old city, past the Grand Mosque and into the covered market. There he proceeded to help himself from various stalls to olives, grapes, dates, tangerines, pickled lemons, all the while exhorting me to do likewise. The stall-holders looked on with amused tolerance and laughed heartily at his disparaging remarks about the quality of their produce.

Elsewhere in the Médina, however, in the leather and brassware shops, we met with a considerably less open-handed reception. Blue American Express stickers were much in evidence and as far as I could tell even the most ferocious bargainer would be well advised to shop at Harrods instead.

Pausing for a rest and a glass of mint tea, we sat at a café in a small square, the Petit Socco. Did I realize that mint tea ought to be scented with ambergris (cheapskates use orange blossom), the wax found in the intestines of sperm whales? No, I said.

To change the subject I inquired how he thought Tangier, as it was such a *friendly and entertaining* place, could in some quarters have acquired a rather dubious reputation. The taxi driver had no answer, except to say that possibly it was something to do with the number of day-trippers who came on the ferry from Gibraltar in the summer, and who undoubtedly lowered the tone of the place.

Over lunch in the Restaurant Raihani in the Rue Murillo (lamb cooked with almonds and prunes and served on a bed of saffron rice), I was forced to reflect on just how wrong you can be about a place. I felt quite contrite; it wasn't really fair to enjoy myself so much in a *town I had been so rude about*. Still, I assured myself, ordering another carafe of the extremely heady Moroccan red wine, I would be sure to set the record straight.



The difference: in modern Morocco the boys wear jeans, but most of the women and girls stick to the old Berber-based robes

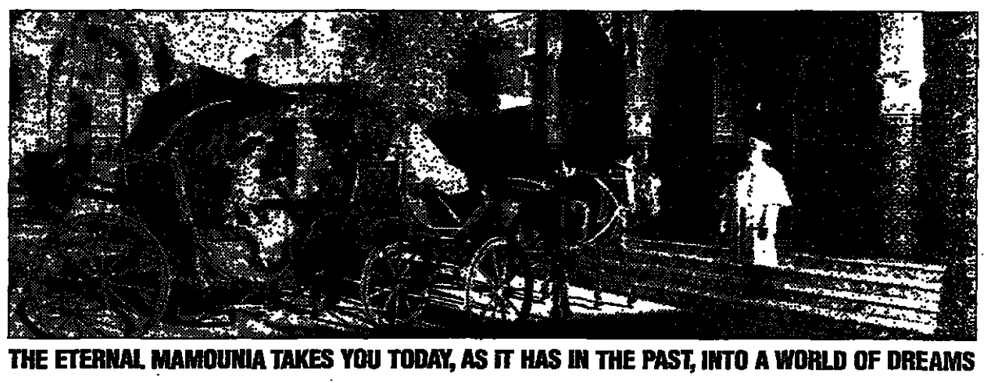
TRAVEL NOTES

● **How to get there:** In the winter months, Royal Air Maroc (01-439 4361) flies non-stop to Tangier on Tuesdays and Saturdays (Apex low season, £141 return; high season, December 16-31, £196). From March to the end of October, GB Airways, a Gibraltar-based company, 49 per cent owned by British Airways, operates a non-stop three-hour service from Gatwick to Tangier every Friday (Apex, £158 return; Club, £520). GB Airways also operates daily flights throughout the year from Gatwick to Gibraltar (from where the ferry to Tangier takes two hours), and to Marrakesh from October 29 for the winter season. Book through British Airways (01-897 4000).

● **Where to stay:** The queen of Tangier hotels is the El Minzah, a member of the French Relais et Chateaux organization. A double room costs approximately £58 a night. It is, however, well worth paying a small supplement for a room with a balcony overlooking the Bay of Tangier and the Straits of Gibraltar. The best of the rest is the nearby Grand Hotel Villa de France which, though a little shabby, is not without character. A double room costs approximately £15 a night.

● **Further information:** Moroccan Tourist Office, 174 Regent Street, London W1 (01-437 0073).

المامونية
LA MAMOUNIA



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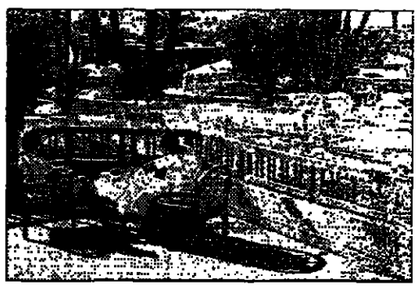
An alchemy of influences and meeting place of cultures, La MAMOUNIA greets is visitors in the most respected traditions of Moroccan hospitality.

The Pool – an air of freshness and youth pervades the famous swimming-pool and its three palm trees island.

Sir Winston Churchill, a regular visitor, spent many happy hours capturing the beauty of the surrounding countryside on canvas. To this day the hotel proudly maintains the Churchill Suite.



Originally built in 1923, the tropical gardens allow guests to relax in a Moorish ambiance.

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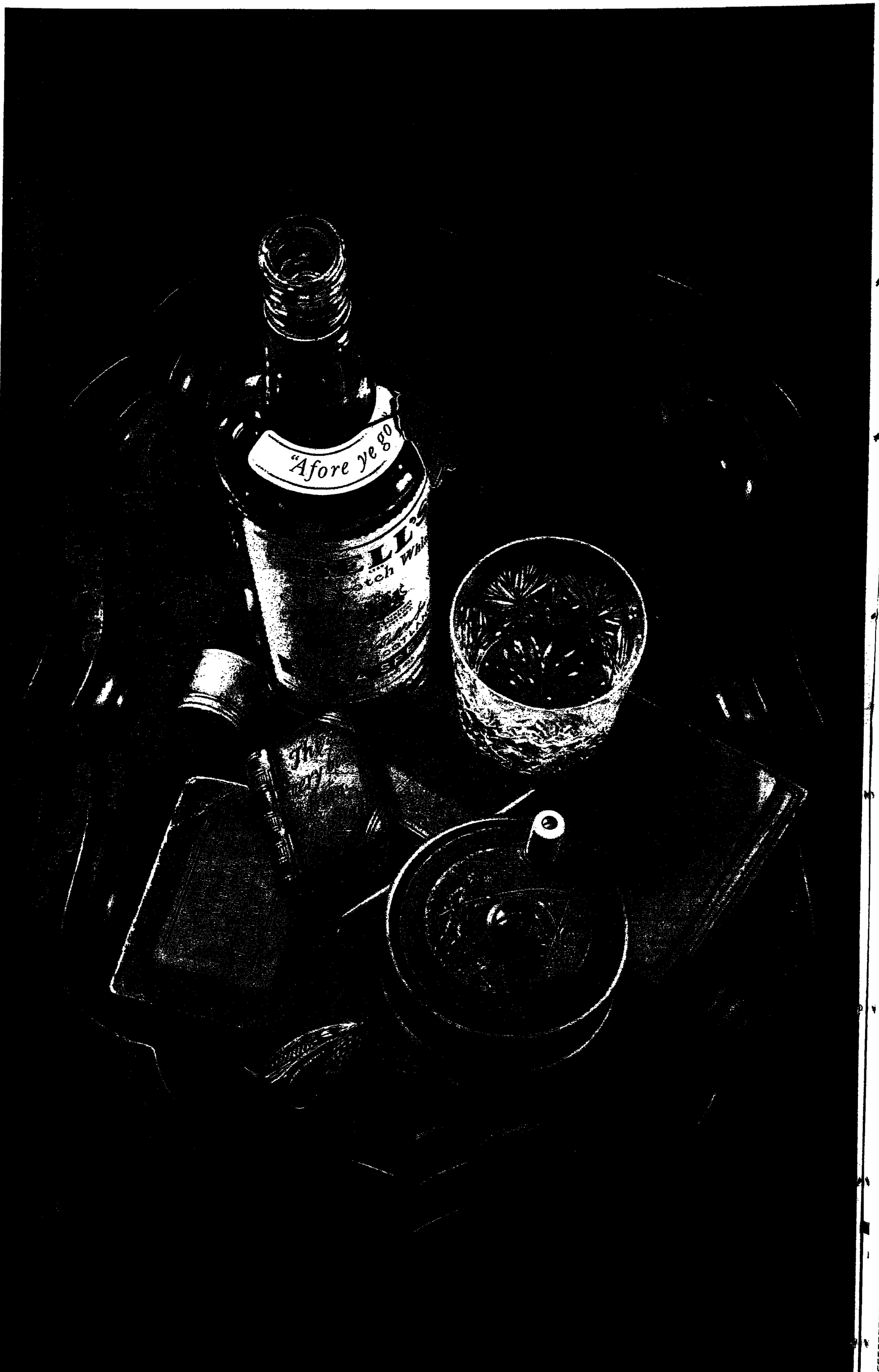

Prague

Ha

figh

refo

Cocaine in court

Page 13

Korea moves

begins on Page 28

Partie

PLATINUM

On Page 31

£800m bid for bank expected

Liverpool top

INDEX